

Seven Running For Ocean Isle Beach Board Of Commissioners

Seven people are running for three seats on the Ocean Isle Beach Board of Commissioners, while Mayor Betty Williamson is unopposed as she seeks election to a third term.

Debbie Sloane Fox, a real estate broker at Sloane Realty, is the only incumbent commissioner seeking reelection.

Commissioners Virginia Gibson and Pearl Steele are not running for the town board, meaning voters will elect at least two new faces to the board.

Challengers are William Bullington, Raymond Erickson, Paul Justice, Janet Sanders, Kendall Suh and John Sutton. Commissioners are elected for four years.

The mayor and four of the seven commission candidates responded to questionnaires that *The Brunswick Beacon* mailed to municipal candidates in early August.

Bullington, the husband of former mayor LaDane Bullington and current chairman of the planning board, did not respond. Sutton and Ms. Fox also did not return the questionnaire.

BETTY WILLIAMSON

Mayor Betty Williamson said expanding the sewer system to serve all town property owners is the top issue the town will face over the next two years.

Other important issues include putting utilities underground, continuing sidewalk and street lighting projects, developing a long-term erosion control plan and buying a backup water storage tank.

Mrs. Williamson served on the board of commissioners from 1980 to 1987 and was appointed mayor in July 1987 to replace LaDane Bullington, who resigned.

Mrs. Williamson was elected mayor in November 1987 and re-elected in 1989. The owner of Williamson Realty Inc. said she is seeking election again so she can help direct the town toward a more progressive and prosperous future.

"I will work to protect the quality of life and environment we have at Ocean Isle Beach," she said.

Mrs. Williamson says her 11 years of experience on the town board and as mayor make her the most qualified candidate for the position.

"I am familiar with the day to day operations of our town and am knowledgeable of all duties and responsibilities that pertain to being the town manager. I am able to give the necessary time required for the position."

Mrs. Williamson serves as a director of Southern National Bank, serves on the board of trustees at Camp United Methodist Church and is co-chairman of the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce legislative committee.

She serves on the board of directors of the Ocean Isle Beach Property Owners Association, Ocean Isle Museum Foundation and Ocean Isle Chapel Inc.

Mrs. Williamson graduated from Whiteville High School and attended Southeastern Community College in Whiteville.

JANET SANDERS

Janet Sanders says expanding the sewer system to serve the east end of the island and implementing a recycling program are among the most important issues to be addressed in the coming term.

She said beautifying Ocean Isle with sidewalks and underground wiring is another top issue for the town board over the next four years.

Mrs. Sanders said she is seeking election because she wants Ocean Isle Beach to remain a place for families to live and visit. "I want to be involved in the process that guarantees this in the future," she said.

"My most valuable qualification is my interest in Ocean Isle Beach and the people who own property here to see that their interests are represented," Mrs. Sanders said.

Mrs. Sanders, a homemaker who formerly worked with Piedmont Airlines, graduated from Southwest High School in Forsyth County and attended East Carolina University.

She was appointed to the Ocean Isle Beach Board of Elections earlier this year but later resigned so she could run for a seat on the town board.

Mrs. Sanders presently serves as a volunteer at the Museum of Coastal Carolina at Ocean Isle Beach and has held various offices in the PTA, woman's club, neighborhood recreation association and March of Dimes.

RAYMOND L. ERICKSEN

Raymond Erickson says controlling erosion at the east end of the island and the flooding associated with heavy rains are two of the most important issues the town board must address in the next four years.

The retired fire lieutenant with the White Plains, N.Y., Fire Department, also said improving the fire rating with more training and modern equipment is another priority.

Erickson said the fact that he likes people makes him the most qualified candidate for commissioner.

"I feel Ocean Isle is a nice place to live and want to help keep it that way," he said. "I would like to be the homeowners representative, as I have no political or other ties to anyone on Ocean Isle."

Erickson graduated from Mamaroneck High School in New York and presently is a self-employed paint contractor. He served as a hospital corpsman third class with the First Marine Airwing in Korea in 1952 and 1953.

Kendall H. Suh

Dr. Kendall Suh said he supports no tax increases and would like to investigate options to lower the town's sewer rates.

The emergency medicine physician and owner of Brunswick Emergency Physicians said he would also like to see emergency medical and fire services expanded.

"I support our volunteers and would be willing to assist in further training of our rescue personnel and increasing access to services," he said.

Suh also said he would like to look into opportunities for the Army Corps of Engineers to properly mark and dredge Shallotte Inlet. He said the sand could be used to renourish the east end of the strand.

The physician said he is seeking election to help keep Ocean Isle Beach a great place to live. He wants the town to remain progressive but still control growth so it remains a family beach community.

"I have no political ties to anyone and can therefore represent with utmost integrity the concerns of the people who are the heartbeat of Ocean Isle Beach," he said. Suh is a board certified family practice physician

trained at Duke. He received an A.B. in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1981 and an M.D. from the Oral Roberts University School of Medicine in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1985.

Suh is a member of the medical staff at The Brunswick Hospital in Supply and a member of the Brunswick County Medical Society.

A charter member of the South Brunswick Islands Civitan Club, Suh set up a scholarship bearing his name and that of the club. He also established a Brunswick County chapter of the U.N.C. Educational Foundation.

E. PAUL JUSTICE

Paul Justice thinks protecting the environment in general, and the beach in particular, will be one of the most important issues the Ocean Isle Beach town board will face in the coming term.

Justice said the town should continue to enforce building codes and zoning rules with a minimum of variances.

He also supports enforcement of anti-litter laws, speed limits and fire prevention rules. "Tourists should not think our laws do not apply to them," he said.

Justice said the town should resist hard structures designed to control beach erosion. "If we could do it legally and financially, we should remove these hard controls already on the east end of the island."

A full-time resident of Ocean Isle for five years, Justice said he thinks the permanent residents need to be represented by someone other than people involved in the tourism and real estate business.

The candidate said he can "give a fair and unbiased representation to those that live here year round, pay their taxes, and in many cases earn their livelihood here."

Justice is a retired superintendent with Thomas Built Buses in High Point. He graduated from High Point Senior High School and received a two-year certificate in industrial management from N.C. State University.

He is a former president of the High Point Industrial Management Club. Justice has held various offices in the Methodist church, and presently serves as chairman of the building committee at Seaside United Methodist Church.



WILLIAMSON



SANDERS



ERICKSEN



JUSTICE

MAYOR IS UNOPPOSED

Five Candidates Seeking Three Seats On Town Board In Varnamtown

Five candidates are running for the three available town board seats in Varnamtown, while Mayor Judy Galloway is unopposed in her bid for re-election to a second term.

Alderman John David Dawson is the only incumbent in the town board race. Other candidates are Faye Galloway, Roscoe Griffin, Tonya Robbins and Jeff Whitfield, all newcomers to the political scene.

Mayor Galloway and four of the five town board hopefuls responded to questionnaires that *The Brunswick Beacon* mailed to candidates in early August. Ms. Robbins did not respond.

For the most part, candidates stayed away from identifying top issues they would face in the coming term. Most said they would do what is best for the town and its people.

The mayor in Varnamtown is elected for a term of two years, while aldermen serve four-year terms.

JUDY L. GALLOWAY

Judy Galloway said she's seeking a second term as mayor "because I care for my town and its people and I want to help in any way I can."

The co-owner of Lockwood Folly Seafood and part-time tax preparer was first elected mayor in 1989.

Mrs. Galloway is treasurer of Dixon Chapel United Methodist Church and graduated from Bolivia High School in 1964. She also completed accounting courses at Southeastern Community College in Whiteville.

The mayor did not identify any

top issues the town will face in the coming term. She said she would do whatever is good for Varnamtown and whatever the majority of the people want.

ROSCOE GRIFFIN

Roscoe Griffin said he thinks the town should provide water and sewer service and consider trash pickup in the community.

"Being a new town, we need to look into a lot of things, but I think the voters should decide which ones they would prefer first," he said.

Griffin has served as credit chairman with a federal credit union and served on an executive board of a labor union.

"Being retired, I have a lot of spare time," he said. "And I would like to make our community a better place to live."

Griffin said he doesn't know that he is the most qualified candidate. "I do feel that the experience I've had in labor negotiations and credit unions helps me a lot."

JEFF WHITFIELD

Jeff Whitfield, owner of Beach Cafe at Holden Beach, said he is seeking office because he doesn't want Varnamtown to change.

"I think everyone recognizes what a great place Varnamtown is and we all want to preserve the natural beauty of our community as well as our simple and uncomplicated lifestyles," he said.

"But issues will arise from time to time and I feel it's important that Varnamtown be represented by people who share the ideals and values of the majority, and by people who

are willing to contribute the time and energy it takes to bring about the best results."

Whitfield was valedictorian of his graduating class at Camden Military Academy in Camden, S.C. He attended N.C. State University and received a bachelor of science degree from N.Y. Regents College in Albany, N.Y.

He served in the Navy from 1983 to 1987 and was a classified-material security officer for a patrol squadron in Brunswick, Maine, among other assignments.

FAYE GALLOWAY

Faye Galloway, an administrative assistant II with the Brunswick County Engineering Department, is seeking her first elective office.

"Having been a resident for 22 years, I feel I am familiar with the needs of the town and will listen to the people and do what is best for the town," she said.

She graduated from Chatham Central High School in 1961 and Palmer Business College in 1963.

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