

080330
Sept. 4, 2008**Fiala, Eugenia J.**

From: Andrew, Devonia L.
Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2008 4:36 PM
To: Fiala, Eugenia J.
Subject: FW: [QUARANTINE BYPASSED] Resignation from GEAC

FYI

From: Rob Brinkman [mailto:RobBrinkman@cox.net]
Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2008 4:30 PM
To: citycomm
Cc: Crider, John W; Carol Gordon
Subject: [QUARANTINE BYPASSED] Resignation from GEAC

Madame Mayor and Commissioners,

I was reminded today while preparing for this afternoon's GEAC meeting that there is a provision in the City ordinance which created GEAC that prohibits a members from becoming a candidate for public office (Sec. 2-357 (e) Members, while serving shall not become candidates for public office.) I am currently a qualified candidate for the Alachua County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, which though an unpaid position is an elected position with said election held as provided in state law.

I just confirmed with Marion Radson that a plain reading of the ordinance requires my resignation. Some members of the Commission may recall this happened to me before when I was a candidate for City Commission in 2005. My apologies for one again running afoul of this provision, when I qualified as a candidate this provision did not occur to me until reviewing the ordinance today.

Therefore I hereby resign my appointment to GEAC effective immediately, although I will attend today's meeting an likely most if not all future meetings as a member of the public. The lack of the ability to vote is not that consequential but as the Mayor noted in 2005, GEAC appears to be the only committee with this ban on members being candidates. I have certainly served on several advisory boards for several local entities along side candidates for public office. The tradition is the advisory board member resigns if elected to office.

I would like to respectfully suggest that the Commission give particular attention to appointing members of the public who have been attending GEAC meetings. I urge you to request that staff provide the names of non -GEAC members who have attended GEAC meetings in the last year and who have also submitted applications for appointment to GEAC. The reason for my recommendation is that GEAC has been plagued by members not showing up after being appointed, therefore appointing someone with a documented record of interest in GEAC might be helpful.

I would like to thank the Commission for the opportunity to serve on GEAC as well as the GRU staff I worked with on the committee over the years.

Sincerely,

Rob Brinkman

8/27/2008