COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Commissioners	Presenter(s):	Chairman Steve Brown
Meeting Date:	Thursday, December 12, 2013	Type of Request:	New Business

Wording for the Agenda:

Consideration of the Selection Committee's recommendation to reappoint Mr. Thomas Mahon and Mr. George "Larry" Blanks to the Fayette County Zoning Board of Appeals, and for each appointment to begin on January 1, 2014 and to expire on December 31, 2016.

Background/History/Details:

The Fayette County Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is a volunteer body comprised of five members who are appointed to three-year terms. The purpose of the ZBA is to hear and decide upon appeals where it is alleged there is error in any order, requirement, decision or determination made by the Zoning Administrator in the enforcement of regulations. The ZBA may, in conformity of the provisions of regulations, reverse or affirm the order, requirement, decision, or determination of the Zoning Administrator. The ZBA may also direct the issuance of a permit and, upon appeal in specific cases, authorize a variance from the terms of regulations as will not be contrary to the public interest.

Three ZBA positions are set to expire on December 31, 2013. Pursuant to Board direction, the positions were advertised for all interested citizens to apply. The County Clerk received four applications. Three of the applications were for reappointment from current appointees to the ZBA and the fourth application was a new consideration. Chairman Steve Brown and Commissioner David Barlow interviewed each applicant and decided to reappoint the two of the current appointees: Mr. Thomas Mahon and Mr. George "Larry" Blanks.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Approval of the Selection Committee's recommendation to reappoint Mr. Thomas Mahon and Mr. George "Larry" Blanks to the Fayette County Zoning Board of Appeals, and for each appointment to begin on January 1, 2014 and to expire on December 31, 2016.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable.

Has this request been considered within the past two years?		If so, when?	
Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?*		Backup Provided with Request?	

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

Approved by Finance	Not Applicable	Reviewed by Legal	
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	County Clerk's Approval	Yes
Administrator's Approval			

Staff Notes:

The Selection Commission initially chose to appoint Mr. Brian Haren to the Zoning Board of Appeals, however, Mr. Haren also applied for the Planning Commission. The Selection Committee chose to appoint Mr. Haren to the Planning Commission as will be noted in this agenda. The remaining vacant ZBA position will be re-advertised in the near future.

Accepted

Application for Re-Appointment to the Fayette County Zoning Board of Appeals

Thomas J. Mahon, Jr.

[redacted]

1. Q. How long have you been a resident of Fayette County?
   A. Since 1977
2. Q. Why are you interested in serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals?
   A. To continue service to the Citizens of Fayette County
3. Q. What qualifications and experience do you possess that should be considered for appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals?
   A. I have served on the ZBA for over 28 years
4. Q. List your recent employment experiences to include the name of company and position.
   A. I have been with Kolcraft Enterprises, Inc., since 1978, and currently serve as Senior Vice President – Sales, based in Peachtree City, GA.
5. Q. Do you have any past experience related to this position? If so, please describe.
   A. I have served on the ZBA for over 28 years
6. Q. Are you currently serving on a commission/board/authority or in an elected capacity with any government?
   A. I am currently serving on the Fayette County Zoning Board of Appeals
7. Q. Have you attended any Zoning Board of Appeals meetings in the past two years, and if so, how many?
   A. Yes, whenever we had a petition in front of the ZBA
8. Q. Are you willing to attend seminars or continuing education classes at county expense?
   A. Yes
9. Q. What is your vision of the county's future related to the duties of the Zoning Board of Appeals?
   A. To maintain the ordinances as passed by the Board of Commissioners, and to hear each petition impartially.
10. Q. Would there be any possible conflict of interest between your employment or your family and you serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals?
    A. No
11. Q. Are you in any way related to a County Elected Official or County employee? If so, describe.
    A. No
12. Q. Describe your current community involvement.
    A. I have been involved with various Fayette County civic and church organizations since 1977.
13. Q. You have been given a copy of the Ethics Ordinance. Is there any reason you would not be able to comply with the ordinance?
    A. No

Thomas J. Mahon, Jr. 10-10-13

ACCEPTED

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT
Fayette County Zoning Board of Appeals

Thank you for your interest in being considered for appointment to the Fayette County Zoning Board of Appeals.

Applicants must be a legal resident of the State of Georgia and have been a resident of Fayette County for at least six months prior to the date an application is submitted.

The Zoning Board of Appeals is comprised of five members appointed to three-year terms. Meetings are scheduled to be held on a monthly basis. Said meetings take place at the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue West, Fayetteville, Georgia. Please do not apply if you will be unable to attend a minimum of eighty percent (80%) of all meetings. **Applicants are encouraged to attend as many Zoning Board of Appeals meetings as possible in an effort to become familiar with the responsibilities of the post.**

Please take a few minutes to complete the form and answer the questions on the reverse side of this form and return it with a resume, if available, to Floyd Jones, County Clerk, 140 Stonewall Avenue, West, Suite 100, Fayetteville, GA 30214 no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 18, 2013.

If you have any questions, please call (770) 305-5102.

NOTE: Information provided on this form is subject to disclosure as a public record under Georgia Open Records Law.

NAME George Larry Blanks "LARRY"

ADDRESS [redacted]

[redacted]

TELEPHONE (day [redacted]

(evening) [redacted]

(email address) [redacted]

Signature

October 1, 2013
Date

1. How long have you been a resident of Fayette County?
   36 Years. Built my first home in the Kenwood area in 1977.

2. Why are you interested in serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals?
   To provide assistance to homeowners and businesses in accomplishing their goals in accordance to Fayette county laws and ordinances.

17 yrs.

3. What qualifications and experience do you possess that should be considered for appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals? Having been a member of the Fayette ZBA since Jan. 2, 1997, and served as both Chairman or Vice Chairman for approximately 7 of the past 17 years, I believe I have the background and experience to continue serving

4. List your recent employment experiences to include name of company and position
   Employed by Delta Air Lines for 11 years in aircraft engine maintenance
   Employed by S.I.T.A., an airline international telecommunications company for over 20 years
   Retired in 2011.

5. Do you have any past experience related to this position? If so, please describe.
   Well rounded background in various areas including telecom, computer science, analytical analysis, management.

6. Are you currently serving on a commission/board/authority or in and elected capacity with any government?
   Currently serving as a member of the Fayette ZBA.

7. Have you attended any Zoning Board of Appeals meetings in the past two years and, if so, how many? As a member of the board for 17 years, I've attended all meetings for the past two years only missing 3 meetings in 17 years.

8. Are you willing to attend seminars or continuing education classes at county expense?
   Yes.

9. What is your vision of the county's future related to the duties of the Zoning Board of Appeals?
   As Fayette continues to grow with the new industry moving into our county, I foresee additional business for ZBA. Duties could also be expanded which I will be happy to discuss

10. Would there be any possible conflict of interest between your employment or your family and you serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals? No.

11. Are you in any way related to a County Elected Official or County employee? If so, please describe. No.

12. Describe your current community involvement. Currently a member of the Fayette ZBA.
    Member of the Fayetteville Masonic Lodge #711 for 28 years.

13. You have been given a copy of the county's Ethics Ordinance. Is there any reason you would not be able to comply with the ordinance? No.

[redacted]

George Larry Blanks

Objective

Application for re-appointment to the Fayette County Zoning Board of Appeals.

Experience

1997 -Present Member of ZBA Fayetteville GA

Appointed in January, 1997.
Served approximately 7 of the past 17 years in the capacity of Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Employment

1996 – 1997 AT&T Global Accounts Atlanta, GA
Responsibilities included Data Network Sales for Major/Global accounts

1997 – 2011 Orange Business Services Atlanta GA
Responsibilities included preparing, presenting and negotiating Service Level Agreements (SLA's) with international Fortune 100 accounts
Orange Business Services was a wholly owned subsidiary of France Telecom.

2011 – Present Retired.

– "multiple front yards" – corner lots (setbacks doubled)

Amplification to Resume

George Larry Blanks

[redacted]

1992 - Present WORLDSPAN, L.P. - System Advisor, Network Planning
(A limited partnership of Delta Air Lines, TWA and Northwest Airlines to provide computer reservations services to travel agencies worldwide.)

- Responsible for design, implementation and coordination of international networks for Canada, Caribbean, Central and South America.
- Successful in developing and implementing cost efficient solutions in all areas resulting in significant overall cost savings.
- Project manager for major network migration of WORLDSPAN sales offices.
- Responsible for hardware evaluation, selection and contract negotiations for eight thousand remote locations.
- Responsible for contract development and negotiations with network and hardware vendors.

1988 - 1992 Racal Datacom - District Sales Representative
(A data communications equipment manufacturing company based in Sunrise, FL.)

- Averaged $1.5M per annum in sales during five year period.
- Met or exceeded quota in areas such as new business, product quota and sales quota
- Responsible for account management and voice/data communications equipment/network sales to major Fortune 1000 accounts in Georgia and Tennessee.
- Developed and managed business plans for region of responsibility as well as each individual account.
- Acheived goal of 107% of quota upon leaving.

1988 - 1988 Automation & Communications Services/Computer Central
(A consulting company and retail computer store owned and operated by me and my wife)

- Independent consultant in both voice and data communications as well as business automation systems.
- Clients included Aero Peru, TAN/SHASA Airlines, MartainAir of Holland.
- Owned and operated retail computer store.
- Successful in obtaining the Fayette County School System computer supplies business.
- Built up monthly revenue flow of $30K per month

1986 - 1988 American Trans Air - Director, Resv. & Communications
(The largest charter airline in the U.S. also operating limited scheduled service with both U.S. and international routes)

- Responsible for 15 managers and over 200 employees across the network.
- Co-chaired a Scheduled Service Planning Committee to develop and implement a scheduled service division of the company.
- Planned, staffed, implemented and managed a scheduled airline reservations center.
- Responsible for development of a complete global communications network for both voice and data.
- Reduced $1.5M annual communications costs by over 20%.

Amplification to Resume
George Larry Blanks

1984 - 1986 Sperry Corporation - Account Executive, Airline Marketing
(A major computer, communications and software manufacturing company)

- Responsible for all aspects of sales and marketing of Sperry's complete product line.
- Successful in selling DCP40 communications network system air terminal equipment to Piedmont airlines with value of $2.4 million.

1977 - 1984 S.I.T.A. - Marketing Representative, GABRIEL Services
(A not for profit cooperative that owns and operates the largest private communications network in the world)

- Responsible for development of procedures, training, project management of new customer implementation, daily customer support interface, development of new applications and coordination of implementation.
- Successful in project managing over 14 airline accounts from manual to automated systems.
- Promoted into marketing position.
- Responsible for development business plans for marketing of computer services (CRS) to airlines worldwide.
- Extensive travel in South America, Europe, Middle East and Far East marketing data communications products and services to airline executives.
- Worked extensively with local telephone companies (PTT's) throughout the world.
- Successful in closing an additional $2 millions annual revenue.

1966 - 1977 Delta Air Lines - Customer Services Representative,
Reservations and City Ticket Offices

- Ramp Service Agent, Chattanooga, TN.
- Aircraft Jet Engine Mechanic, Atlanta, GA.
- Transferred to Reservations Sales Agent for marketing background
- Promoted to Tariffs department
- Promoted to City Ticket Office as Customer Service Agent.