

Profile

Susan

First Name

B

Middle Initial

Watts

Last Name

44 Coconut Row

Home Address

Apt 622A

Suite or Apt

Palm Beach

City

FL

State

33480

Postal Code

sbwatts@yahoo.com

Email Address

Home: (917) 414-3617

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation Advisory Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Appointment to the Architectural Commission (ARCOM), Landmarks Preservation Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, Recreation Advisory Commission, & Underground Utilities Task Force (UUTF) requires the applicant to be a registered voter in the Town of Palm Beach. Please attach a copy of BOTH SIDES of your Voter Registration card with your application. Failure to provide the required copy of the voter registration card shall be grounds for rejection of the application.

Question applies to multiple boards

I am a registered voter in the Town of Palm Beach (Initial below)

SBW

Question applies to multiple boards

[verified PGG 4/18/24](#)

Upload a Voter Registration Card in one of the accepted formats (Front)

Question applies to multiple boards

Upload a Voter Registration Card in one of the accepted formats (Back)

Retired

Occupation

In what area of town do you live?

☒ Midtown

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## Interests/Experience

Question applies to Recreation Advisory Commission

### **Why do you wish to be appointed as a member of the Recreation Advisory Commission?**

As a 16 year resident of Palm Beach and a current member of the Recreation Advisory Commission, it is my hope to continue serving for a second term. I have been actively involved with decision making and contributions to discussion on the RAC during my first term. Since my first two meetings were held via Zoom in 2021 due to the COVID pandemic, I was excited to join my fellow Commissioners in person after the restrictions were lifted. I have participated in recreation in Palm Beach since 2016 when I first joined a Seaview women's tennis team and continue to participate on the Phipps Ocean Park tennis team, currently in First Place in our Division. There are important issues the RAC will be addressing in the next three years. I believe I can add value to the discussion through my years of civic engagement in the Town, bringing residents concerns and ideas forward for discussion. It is a pleasure serving with the other Commissioners and I feel we have been effective as a group in our capacity as Advisors. I have enjoyed working with Mark Bresnahan and the staff who continue to achieve excellence in programming and management. It has been an honor to serve on the Recreation Advisory Commission for my term and am looking forward to serving a second term.

Question applies to Recreation Advisory Commission

### **Please identify how many meetings of the Recreation Advisory Commission you have attended in the past two (2) years? \***

☒ 5

### **Please indicate if there are any periods of time for which you will be unavailable for meetings.**

Available for all meetings

Question applies to multiple boards

### **If you have served on any boards/commissions/committees in the Town of Palm Beach or elsewhere, please list them and include details such as length of service, attendance record, etc.**

Town of Palm Beach Recreation Advisory Commission, 2021- current member Planning and zoning Commission, Alternate Member- May 2014-October 2016 Mayor's County Budget Task Force, Jan 2017 - Jan 2019 Town of Palm Beach United Way Allocation Committee, 2010-2014 Society of the Four Arts, Library Committee, 2010 - current Additional Board/committee service Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Boston MA - Advocacy Committee 1985-1993 Vietnam Children's Fund, Board member 2000-2010 The Company of the Redwood Library and Athenaeum, Vice Chair, Jan 2000 - Jan 2006, and current Shareholder, Newport, RI French American Aid for Children, Member, 2020 - current, New York, NY

**Please describe your current and past involvement/participation in Town recreation programs and/or facilities.**

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Current member of Phipps Ocean Park women's tennis team 2022 (Fall) -current Past member of Seaview women's tennis teams, 2016-2022 Volunteer Mandel Recreation Center - children's Halloween party and various Mandel Center events

**Are you a member of any of the following organizations? (Check all that apply)**

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- ☒ Palm Beach Civic Association
- ☒ Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach
- ☒ Neighborhood Alliance of Palm Beach

**Present Occupation**

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Retired

**No. of years**

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19

**Past occupation(s)**

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Former Program Director in the Non Profit Sector. Held leadership positions in The French American Foundation (New York City and Paris, France); The Children's Aid Society, New York City; The Children's Defense Fund, Washington, DC (New York City office) . Prior to those positions, developed marketing and communications strategies for emerging growth companies in Boston, MA. Began career as a journalist with The Sakonnet Times, Bristol,RI covering local politics and community affairs in Portsmouth, RI. Additional: hold a real estate sales License in the State of Rhode Island

**No. of years**

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30 years total

**Please provide details regarding your educational background:**

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Bachelor of Arts, Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI 1973 Master in Public Administration, J. F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 1992

[Susan\\_Watts\\_resume\\_2024.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

**Have you ever been convicted or pled guilty or nolo contendere to a crime other than minor traffic violations?**

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☐ Yes ☒ No

If you are currently serving on a Town board, commission, or committee, please identify in the space below and check the "I Agree" box indicating that you will resign from that position if you are appointed to the position you are seeking in this application.

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I agree that I will resign from the board, commission, or committee if I am appointed to the position I am seeking in this application.

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☒ I Agree

To enable Town Council to consider potential conflicts of interest, please list the family members who live and/or work in the Town of Palm Beach, including your spouse, parents, siblings or children.

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None

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## Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

## Ethnicity

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☒ Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

## Gender

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☒ Female

## Physically Disabled

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☐ Yes ☒ No

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I hereby certify that I have read the sections of the Town Code of Ordinances for the particular board/commission/committee that I have selected above and have noted the description of the board/commission/committee and its members' duties, and further I have read the regulations concerning absences and conflicts of interests. I certify the information given by me is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any falsification of material facts will be grounds for rejection of this application of dismissal after appointment.

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☒ I Agree

Question applies to Recreation Advisory Commission

***Please provide a copy of BOTH SIDES of your Palm Beach County Voter Registration card, which shows your Town of Palm Beach address, with your application.***

**Please note that the Board/Commission applications will expire on December 15 of each year.**

**RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

The Recreation Advisory Commission consists of seven members serving three year terms, appointed by the Town Council. Members of the Commission shall possess a knowledge or interest in Town recreation programs and facilities. Each member of the Recreation Advisory Commission is required to be a registered voter in the Town. The Commission acts in an advisory capacity and shall make recommendations to the Town Council on matters relating to Town recreation programs and facilities. Preference is given to candidates who are enrolled or have their children enrolled in a Recreation Department program or are a regular participant or volunteer at a Town Recreation Department facility. Three alternate members may be appointed by the Town Council who shall serve when called upon by the Chair in the absence of any regular member.

The Recreation Advisory Commission meets three (3) times per year. Meetings begin at 9:00 a.m., and are held in the Town Council Chambers located on the second floor of Town Hall at 360 South County Road, Palm Beach, Florida.

**Susan Watts** had experience developing and managing strategies for communications, education and innovation in the for-profit and non-profit communities. While she began her career in journalism with a regional New England weekly (The Sakonnet Times, Bristol, Rhode Island) where she won a New England Press Association award for investigative reporting, and free-lance writing (Town and Country and Yankee magazines), she soon recognized opportunities to leverage her communications skills as a participant in the growth of New England's technology industries in the 1980's.

Susan had a successful ten-year consulting practice in Boston, Massachusetts where she developed marketing and communications strategies for emerging growth companies, including Compac Computer and Lotus Development Corporation. While serving as a volunteer on the Corporation's Board of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, she saw potential benefits in applying private sector marketing, communications, and management techniques to the non-profit sector. To that end, she resumed her education, and received a graduate degree in Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University in 1992.

Upon moving to New York City in 1993, Mrs. Watts joined the French-American Foundation where she continued to develop projects that reflected her interest in culture, education and innovation. She conceived, funded and directed two cross-cultural policy programs in children's health and early education between the United States and France. These ground-breaking projects were supported through grants from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Foundation for Child Development, and the William and Mary Greve Foundation. Reports on the projects were published and widely disseminated to educators, health practitioners and policy-makers in both countries.

She held subsequent executive positions in both the Children's Aid Society in New York City where she was Director of External relations; and with the Children's Defense Fund in Washington, DC where she oversaw international policy projects, publication of a book of essays on childhood by noted American authors with Houghton, Mifflin, Inc, and organized and ran an international Women's Leadership Conference in conjunction the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center in Bellagio, Italy. She retired from professional life in 2005 and is now devoting herself to volunteer activities.

Throughout her life, Susan has been active in sports activities, including tennis, swimming, and coaching her son's Little League baseball team. She is a member of the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA; the Harvard Club, Boston, MA; The Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach, FL; The Redwood Library and Athenaeum, Newport, RI; The Preservation Society of Newport County, RI; The Preservation Foundation, Palm Beach, FL; and the French American Aid for Children, New York, NY.