



**Town of Highland Beach
Town Clerk's Office
3614 S. Ocean Boulevard
Highland Beach, Florida 33487
Phone: (561) 278-4548 Fax: (561) 265-3582**

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES APPLICATION

This information is for consideration of appointment to a Town Board. Please complete and return this form to the Town Clerk, along with your *resume and proof of residency such as a government issued identification or voter registration card.*

PLEASE NOTE: Florida Public Records Law is very broad. Documents relevant to town business is public records and is subject to public disclosure upon request. Your information provided within this application may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

NAME: Michael R. Thorson PHONE: (954) 801-2425

HOME ADDRESS: 4206 S. Ocean Boulevard, Highland Beach APT. NO. 3

SUBDIVISION: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: thorson12000@yahoo.com

PLEASE SELECT THE BOARD(S) / COMMITTEE(S) ON WHICH YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING IN NUMERICAL ORDER FROM 1 THROUGH 7, WITH 1 BEING YOUR FIRST CHOICE AND 7 THE LEAST CHOICE. (A description of the responsibilities of each Board is on the back of this application.)

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|--|---|
| <p><u>2</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Adjustment & Appeals</p> <p><u>5</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Advisory Board</p> <p><u>4</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Board</p> | <p><u>1</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Code Enforcement Board</p> <p><u>6</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources Preservation Board</p> <p><u>3</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Town Commission ***(If vacancy)</p> <p><u>7</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Other Board /Committee</p> |
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PLEASE MARK YES OR NO FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- | | | | | |
|---|-----|-------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| Are you a resident of Highland Beach? | Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are you a registered voter in Highland Beach/Palm Beach County, FL? | Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are you currently serving on a Town Board? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you ever served on a Town Board/Committee? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If Yes, please indicate the Board(s)/Committee(s) and dates of service:

Are you willing to attend monthly board meetings? In (Person / Teleconference) Yes No

Per Town Code of Ordinance, I understand any member absence from three (3) consecutive meetings will be considered as resignation from the board/committee. Yes No

Please list any special talent, qualification, education, or professional experience that would contribute to your service on the Board/Committee you have selected?

Although I predominantly serve as a Consultant to community organizations, I occasionally work as ~~a licensed catastrophe insurance adjuster and have adjusted claims for homeowners impacted by hurricanes and coastal wind storms.~~ I believe I possess a unique combination of experience serving the community while at the same time, staying abreast of building codes and other issues of ~~importance to homeowners along coastal areas.~~ I am also mandated to earn CEUs by the State of Florida to maintain my insurance license, and this is valuable experience I can bring to the position.

Please summarize your volunteer experience(s):

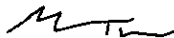
My nonprofit experience naturally provides ample experience for me to volunteer. I helped lead the ~~Boca Raton Childrens Museum to successful conclusion of a \$3 million capital campaign to rebuild the original house in which the museum is located.~~ I have volunteered for beach cleanups, Salvation Army Christmas toy drives, veterans assistance organizations and others.

Florida Law requires appointed members on the Planning and Board of Adjustment and Appeals Boards to file a Form 1 - Statement of Financial Interests Disclosure form on an annual basis.

Vetting by the Board Chairperson. The Chairperson of each Board shall interview the applicant and submit a memorandum of recommendation to the Town Clerk's Office 14 days prior to the Town Commission Workshop Meeting for final appointment.

Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics requires appointed members to take the Code of Ethics Training every two (2) years.

I hereby certify that the statements and answers provided are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.



Signature of Applicant

October 27, 2023

Date

Resume Attached

Michael Robert Thorson

4206 S. Ocean Boulevard, #3, Highland Beach, FL 33487 | 954-801-2425 | thorson12000@yahoo.com

Summary of Qualifications

- Florida Licensed Insurance Adjuster #W471869
- Knowledgeable about coastal building risk mitigation
 - Expert, professional communication skills
- Extensive Fundraising Development Experience

2018-2023 Nonprofit Consultant, PhilanthroPros, Pompano Beach, FL

Partner for nonprofit fundraising firm assisting new and existing nonprofits to establish sound development strategies. Developed and implemented major gifts cultivation strategies, planned giving, annual funds and special events. Clients include(d) Christi Academy, Covenant Care, Senior Economic Housing Development Council and others.

2007-2018 Nonprofit Consultant & Capital Campaign Manager, Thorson Strategic, Highland Beach, FL

Independently and as contracted co-counsel for leading fundraising firms, responsible for developing and directing client development activities including capital campaigns (for new building construction), strategic planning, major gifts, special events, volunteer management, board development, planned giving, grant-writing and print correspondence. Clients included Immaculata LaSalle Catholic School, Aurora Central Catholic School \$3,500,000, St. Anastasia Catholic Church \$4,500,000.

2003-2007 Development Director, Paralyzed Veterans Association (PVA), Fort Lauderdale, FL

Secured new sources of funding through major gifts, grants and special events. Recruited volunteers and established new fundraising initiatives including the Today's Veteran Annual Fund and the organization's inaugural lead event. Additional responsibilities included community partnership development, collateral and appeal letters, volunteer recruitment and corporate sponsorship.

2001-2003 Capital Campaign Director, Community Consulting Services (CCS)

Developed and directed capital fundraising campaigns for Catholic institutions. Archdiocese of Kansas City (\$50,000,000) and the Diocese of Des Moines (\$35,000,000). Responsibilities included parish campaign management, volunteer recruitment, collateral development, training and solicitation of lead gifts.

Resume Note: Fundraising Consulting is my full-time job. But during hurricane season and in-between consulting clients, I often serve as a building inspector for insurance companies and as an Independent Insurance Adjuster, handling claims for homeowners impacted by hurricanes and other weather-related disasters.

EDUCATION

Continuing education in insurance adjusting as required by State of Florida
Catastrophe Adjusting Insurance Academy, June 2021
Southern Illinois University, BA Communications (Foreign Language/International Business)
College of DuPage, AA

VOLUNTEERISM

Habitat for Humanity
Salvation Army
Boca Raton Children's Museum (former Board Member)
Association of Fundraising Professionals (Instructor)

OTHER

Florida Independent All Lines 6-20 Licensed Insurance Adjuster License #W471869