

Date of Application:

2024-12-02

Your Name:

Last Name

Rohena Jr

First Name

Rafael

Middle Name

G

Address:

Number and Street

1630 Begonia Ct.

City

Marco Island

State

Florida

Zip

34145-5155

Phone Numbers:

Cell

8326552791

Email Address

ralph.rohena@gmail.com

Board or Committee

Waterways Committee

Background

How long have you lived on Marco Island?

5-10 Years

Are you a year-round resident?

Yes

Are you a qualified elector of the City?

Yes

Have you ever been convicted or found guilty of a criminal offense (any level felony or first degree misdemeanor only)?

No

Would you (or any organizations with which you are affiliated) potentially benefit on a personal level from decisions or recommendations made by this board?

No

Do you currently hold public office?

No

Do you now serve, or have you ever served on a Collier County or City of Marco Island board or committee?

No

Qualifications

Please list your community activities and positions held (Example: Civic clubs, neighborhood associations, etc.):

Past Court Appointed Child Advocate

Citizens Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

Marco Island Softball League

Founder Marathon Running Club

Karate Black Belt

Why do you want to serve on a committee?

I believe the latest election will bring an opportunity to reset our priorities and be open to innovative solutions to the waterway issues we face. This arena is the foundation of who we are as a City and it is imperative we cease “kicking the can down the road”. My only interest is returning us to an era of being able to fish for lunch off of our docks.

Residing year round on a canal as a boat owner in such a pristine and desirable location is

great motivation to help retain the nature of Marco Island while ascertaining impacts to business and residents alike.

What issues do you think should be addressed by this committee?

We have watched some of our waterways go from our kids watching dolphins / seabirds every day and catching lunch off our docks transition to just catfish, thence to a completely dead waterway. Dolphins and seabirds not visiting now for years. It appears we have been what's called "treadmilling", expending energy by data gathering, testing, prototyping, RFI's, RFP's, exploratory travel etc. and when you look up, you've gone nowhere, hence the term. The culture of kicking tough issues, like cleaning up our waterways, down the road is contagious and hopefully can be addressed.

When I volunteered for this Committee after three members quit, I was advised by the CC interviewer that the task of the Committee was to "work on boating pamphlets". If the Advisory Committees are not given valuable work and respected it will be harder to implement viable solutions in the time frame we need.

As I have written to CC before, there is a point where cost effective solutions come off the table, and costly, invasive solutions are left, hence the interest now of dredging. Dredging is a viable proposal but risky if not given its due as a complex endeavor.

The "low hanging fruit" could have been implemented years ago. Besides the enforcement of fertilizer bans, programs such as enticing waterfront homes to convert to backyard rock mulch/native plants/drippers and a City program (subsidize?) to test waterfront properties as to the correct amount of fertilizer and pesticides rather than dumping in excess.

I am not sure if the overcrowding of assets such as Caxambas is included under this Advisory Committee, but is an important item that impinges upon the laid back enjoyment, tropical feel we have enjoyed.

Resume

[resume waterways advisory position.pdf](#)

Captain Ralph G Rohena Jr

1630 Begonia Ct.

Marco Island, Fl. 34145

Cell:: 832-655-2791

ralph.rohena@gmail.com

Attn: To whom it may concern

Re: Service on the Marco Island Waterways Advisory Committee

Dear Sir, Ms.

I would like to be considered for the vacancy on the Marco Island Waterways Advisory Committee. I believe the latest election will bring an opportunity to reset our priorities and be open to innovative solutions to the waterway issues we face. This arena is the foundation of who we are as a City and it is imperative we cease "kicking the can down the road".

While I have written to CC years ago on the negative waterway trends, I noticed at one point that three members of the waterways advisory committee had quit and the committee had not been meeting. When I volunteered to apply my years of waterway/harbor project experience to the committee, the CC interviewer (no longer elected) advised that the job was to "work on boating pamphlets". I was then ghosted. That spoke volumes on the chances for successfully addressing waterway issues that we, at last, have an opportunity to do now.

Not owning a business or any property other than my own home, I have no special interests other than returning us to an era of being able to fish for lunch off of our docks. Having lived on the water my entire life, I have an understanding of the many complex issues surrounding this type of living. I have been successful in working on marine issues with Federal/State Governments, the Corp of Engineers/USCG and have worked with citizen advisory committees in high profile locations such as Valdez, Alaska.

Residing year round on a canal as a boat owner in such a pristine and desirable location is great motivation to help retain the nature of Marco Island while ascertaining impacts to business and residents alike.

Best Regards,
Ralph G Rohena Jr.

Captain Ralph G Rohena Jr

1630 Begonia Ct.

Marco Island, Fl. 34145

Cell:: 832-655-2791

ralph.rohena@gmail.com

Education

Bachelor of Science degree, State University of New York 1974, Marine Transportation, Economics & Ocean Engineering. U.S. Navy Commissioned Officer.

Profile

- Unlimited Master's License, U.S. Coast Guard issued with First Class Pilotage Endorsements for New York, San Francisco and Prince William Sound (Valdez) Ak.
- 40 Years Experience in Regulatory Compliance & Legislative Affairs, Quality Management, Environmental and Emergency Response, Marine, Rail, Terminals
- Managed harbor & waterway projects both domestic and international
- Firefighting & Emergency Training Certification
- Quality Management Systems, Senior & Lead Auditor Certification
- Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (Hazwoper)
- ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISM Code and STCW Certification,
- Incident Command System-Command & Command Staff Certification
- Hazardous Cargo Handling Certification
- Lead Marine Tier 1 Emergency Response Teams
- Port Revel Shiphandling Course, Grenoble, France
- U.S. Navy / commercial shipping interface training and management
- Established business offices in Houston, Singapore, London, Stravanger
- Lead liaisons with port city citizens committees domestic and international
- Past Court Appointed Child Advocate
- Citizens Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
- Marathon Runner, Karate Black Belt, Marco Island Softball League
- Boat Owner
- Year Round Marco Island Resident

Career Experience

Manager Marine Excellence; ConocoPhillips Marine-Houston, Tx. 2014-2015 and Retired

- Interface with all global marine operational groups to manage strategic oversight, provide leadership to identify, evaluate and execute business opportunities efficiently
- Ensure regulatory, operational and environmental compliance to the highest standards

V.P. Marine Risk and Quality; Qatargas/ ConocoPhillips-Doha Qatar 2012-2014

- Ensure that the safety management policies, processes and procedures of the Qatargas shipping fleet meet the highest global standards
- Develop regimen of risk identification, avoidance and management for all marine operations

V.P., Regulatory Affairs & Chief Compliance Officer; Denali LLC,/ConocoPhillips-Alaska 2011

- Manage design, evaluation, and development activity for proposed Trans Alaska Gas Pipeline and marine terminal

Director HSE, Regulatory & Government Affairs; ConocoPhillips Commercial Marine-Houston, Tx. 2006-2011

- Manage strategic oversight for regulatory compliance issues involving Global Marine assets
- Provide leadership to identify, evaluate, and manage Government regulatory body, Port Authority and Corp of Engineers impacts on waterway issues
- Manage all activity and memberships on marine related forums and associations

Director Global Vetting & Audits; ConocoPhillips Marine-Houston 2003-2006

- Manage the Vetting Marine Risk Group with offices in London, Singapore, Houston, and Stavanger
- Advisor to international and domestic marine projects in Indonesia, Australia, Mexico, Timor, Venezuela, China, Puerto Rico, British Columbia, and others

Marine Superintendent; Emerald Shipping Corp./ConocoPhillips Marine-Houston, Tx. 2001-2003

Port Captain; Refining Marketing & Supply Chain; Phillips 66-Houston, Tx 1996-2001

Marine Superintendent; Xijiang Project-Shekou, China. ConocoPhillips China 1994-1995

Port Captain; NCP Chemicals/Phillips 66-Sweeny, Tx. 1993-1994

Marine Loss Control, Custody Transfer Supervisor; Conoco-Bartlesville, OK. 1991-1993

Tanker Captain and Pilot; Exxon Shipping Company-Houston, Tx. 1974-1990