

SWARTZ, Helen

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# MIAMI BEACH

## CITY COMMISSION GROUP IV VACANCY APPLICATION

This application form is required as part of the City Commission Group IV Vacancy application submittal. The completed application MUST accompany your letter of interest, current resume, photograph, and City of Miami Beach oath. You may attach additional sheets, if necessary, to provide the required information. See the Notice of Commission Vacancy for additional information.

Swartz Helen \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Middle Initial  
1330 West Ave Apt 1804 Miami Beach FL 33139  
Home Address City State Zip Code  
610 639 6424 hswartz25@atlanticbb.net  
Cellular Telephone Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Name Occupation Retired business owner; currently consulting

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Address City State Zip Code

• Have you been a resident of Miami Beach for a minimum of one year? ☒ Yes ☐ No

• Are you a registered voter in Miami Beach? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Florida Voter Registration Number (located on your voter information card): 119214417

• Are you presently a registered lobbyist with the City of Miami Beach? ☐ Yes ☒ No

• Have you ever been convicted of a felony? ☐ Yes ☒ No

• Have you been issued a violation(s) of the City of Miami Beach Code that remains open or pending?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain in detail: \_\_\_\_\_

• Do you currently owe the City of Miami Beach any money? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain in detail: \_\_\_\_\_

- In what organization(s) in Miami Beach do you currently hold membership?

Center for Independent Living  
Organization Name

Board Member  
Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organization Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Position

- List all properties owned or in which you have an ownership interest in Miami Beach:

1330 West Ave, Apt 1804 Miami Beach, Fl  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- How long have you lived in Miami Beach? Eight Years

- Have you served on any City of Miami Beach Board(s) or Committee(s)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, which Board(s) or Committee(s)? Sister Cities Committee new member

Disability Access Committee 6 years Member

Disability Access Committee 1 year Chairperson

What were your contributions to the Board(s) or Committee(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

I initiated and implemented the plan to petition the Commission to have low floor trollies which replaced the South Beach Local. As a frequent user of public transportation in Miami Beach, I was concerned with the struggles I witnessed people confronting, independent of their ages or abilities. I spoke in front of the Commission on various occasions to further the agenda of the Sabrina Cohen Foundation in its quest to create a disability friendly beach and recreation center.

I contributed many volunteer hours to events designed to bring awareness to individuals living with vision impairment

- Why are you interested in serving on the City Commission? \_\_\_\_\_

From my early days on the Disability Access Committee to which I was appointed shortly after my arrival, I admired the resident participation and accessibility of elected officials

I would be a visible and responsive Commissioner in that I believe that our residents deserve to be heard and respected. My goal would be to assist in continuing to make Miami Beach the best it can be in terms of quality of life, commerce and preservation.

- How does your education and/or experience complement the powers and duties of the City Commission?

My leadership skills and belief in humanism will make my appointment to the Commission an asset to the government of our great city. During my years of service on the Disability Access Committee I demonstrated a keen and thoughtful approach to various issues that produced successful outcomes. I would very much like an appointment to the Commission so that I can well serve my community with a combination of my leadership skills, education and decades of business experience.



- Will you run for a City Commission seat in 2019? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Undecided

I HEREBY ATTEST TO THE ACCURACY AND TRUTHFULNESS OF THIS APPLICATION.



Applicant's Signature

January 11, 2019

Date

**NOTE:**

The completed application MUST accompany your letter of interest, current resume, photograph, and City of Miami Beach oath. You may attach additional sheets to provide the required information.

The completed application along with all accompanying materials may be submitted via:

- Email to [RafaelGranado@miamibeachfl.gov](mailto:RafaelGranado@miamibeachfl.gov)
- Hand delivery to the Office of the City Clerk, 1700 Convention Center Drive, First Floor
- Postal mail to City of Miami Beach, Office of the City Clerk, Attention: Rafael E. Granado, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139

**PUBLIC RECORD:**

Pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, this application and everything attached to it is a public record. The materials you provide will be posted on the Office of the City Clerk's Election webpage and will be available for inspection. If you are an individual listed in Section 119.071, F.S., whose home address is exempt from disclosure, the City Clerk will maintain that confidentiality if you submit a written request.

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# CITY OF MIAMI BEACH OATH

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE

Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths, personally appeared HELEN SWARTZ  
\_\_\_\_\_ to me well known who, being sworn, says that he/she is seeking  
appointment to the Office of City Commissioner (Group No. IV) for the City of Miami Beach,  
Florida; that he/she is a qualified elector of said City residing within the City at least one year  
before applying for this office; that his/her legal residence is:

1330 WEST AVE APT 1804 MIAMI BEACH, FL 33139  
Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida; that he/she is qualified under the ordinances  
(including Miami Beach City Code Chapter 38 governing "Elections") and Charter of said City to  
hold such office.

[Signature]  
Signature of Candidate

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this 14 day of Jan, ~~2018~~, 2019  
by Helen Swartz.

(NOTARY SEAL)



VANESSA TORRES  
Commission # GG 278465  
Expires November 20, 2022  
Bonded Thru Budget Notary Services

[Signature]  
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida

Vanessa Torres  
Name of Notary Typed, Printed, or Stamped

Personally Known \_\_\_\_\_ OR

Produced Identification X  
Type of Identification Produced Driver license







**Helen Swartz**

1330 West Ave Apt 1804

Miami Beach, FL 33139

[hswartz25@atlanticbb.net](mailto:hswartz25@atlanticbb.net)

(610) 639-6424

**City of Miami Beach**

1700 Convention Center Drive

Miami Beach, FL 33139

**12 January 2019**

*Dear Selection Committee,*

*As soon as I read the public notice announcing a vacancy for a Commissioner position for Miami Beach, I knew I had to apply. It's with much enthusiasm that I am submitting my materials for consideration for this position.*

*I moved from Pennsylvania to South Beach eight years ago in hopes of finding an accessible and cosmopolitan city in which to live. As someone with multiple sclerosis that affects my mobility, I was drawn to the accessible infrastructure that was so apparently valued in South Beach.*

*Since moving here, I have not only enjoyed the ongoing improvements to the city's infrastructure, but made it my mission to personally impact those changes. Some of my notable activities in Miami Beach include seven years of service on the Disability Access Committee (with one year as Chairperson), completion of Miami Beach's Leadership Course, and leading the charge on advocating for flat-bottom trolleys in South Beach, which are now the norm.*

*I am grateful for everything Miami Beach has done for me and my quality of life, and I believe that it's my time to advocate for others with disabilities and for all positive changes 'on the beach' as one of the city Commissioners.*

*Please feel free to contact me anytime at (610) 639-6424 or [hswartz25@atlanticbb.net](mailto:hswartz25@atlanticbb.net) in regards to this application, or anything else relating to Miami Beach.*

*Thank you in advance for your consideration!*

*Sincerely,  
Helen Swartz*

*RESUME- Helen Swartz, M.Ed.*

## **EDUCATION**

- *M.Ed. Counseling Psychology, Temple University 1979*
- *B.A. English, Long Island University **1973***

## **VOLUNTEER WORK**

### ***Chairperson, Disability Access Committee***

*2018 | Miami Beach, FL*

### ***Member, Disability Access Committee***

*2011 - 2018 | Miami Beach, FL*

### ***Volunteer, Sabrina Cohen Foundation***

*2016- present- | Miami Beach, FL*

### ***President, Board of Directors at The Waverly Condominium***

*2016 | Miami Beach, FL*

### ***President, Board of Directors at The Waverly Condominium***

*2015 | Miami Beach, FL*

### ***Board of Directors at The Waverly Condominium***

*2014 | Miami Beach, FL*

## **EXPERIENCE**

### ***Consultant, WorkRite Consulting | 2009-2017 | Remote Services***

- *WorkRite Consulting LLC provides telephonic vocational counseling services to individuals who have been released to return to work by their healthcare providers after injuries or illness.*
- *Developed goal plans based on individual client needs and recommendations from their healthcare providers.*

- *Assisted clients with resume formulation and review, career retraining options, and general job searching.*
- *Supported clients through the process of accepting post-accident and illness limitations to embrace a new future.*

***Founder and CEO, Rehabilitation Planning Inc. | 1981-2008 | Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania***

- *The organization focused on controlling claims costs for insurance companies and self insureds through the identification of excessive treatment and delivered clinical services to improve productivity, contain costs and get injured workers back to work.*
- *Developed and provided a broad range of products to the insurance industry for the disability management of individuals injured in auto and worker's compensation accidents, or receiving long term disability coverage.*
- *Through the use of national proprietary medical network, provided cost saving case management, independent medical exams, and chart review services.*
- *Developed and implemented vocational and medical services including collaborative file management plans, medical and community-based service providers, communications channels, and protocols based on carrier specifications.*
- *Reviewed, strategized, and developed Action Plans and Goal Plans for thousands of vocational and medical files across LTD, Liability, Auto, and Worker's Compensation Coverage.*
- *Provided clear, consistent, and relevant information as a liaison between caseworkers and insurance professionals.*

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