

Ernest Guzman:

April 3, 2007

To: Elections Committee

I am submitting this information pertaining to qualifications for the Vice-Chair

1. Leadership skills as evidenced by having chaired a commission committee, task force, or ad hoc committee, or by service in a like capacity with other organizations.

I am currently the Vice-Chair of the Arts Commission Programs Committee. I also serve as the Chair of the City of San Jose Project Advisory Committee for the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative

My leadership background includes several Executive Director positions. These include:

- Executive Director, East Bay Leadership Foundation, Walnut Creek, CA
- Interim Executive Director, Planning Accreditation Board, Des Moines, Iowa
- Executive Director, Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits, San Jose, CA
- Funding Administrator, Flextronics International, San Jose, CA
- Program Coordinator, Mexican American Community Services Agency, San Jose, CA

2. Familiarity with and visibility in the local arts and cultural community

My family and I attend local arts productions including Teatro Vision, the San Jose Rep, San Jose Taiko, Children's Musical Theater, Tapestry Arts, etc. I make it a point wherever possible to introduce myself to staff and volunteers as a commissioner.

3. Commitment to the commission's roles and responsibilities.

I am an advocate for an increased role of the commission on behalf of the local arts community. With the landscape changing relating to funding, the increased need for more arts education and added partnerships in the arts world, the commission has a vital role to play in community.

4. Ability to handle complex, volatile, or sensitive situations with integrity, diplomacy and poise.

Whether on this commission or others that I have chaired, the need for setting the right tone in relations with others is paramount. I have established a reputation in San Jose as being thoughtful and considerate in my dealings with others in difficult situations.

5. Commission experience.

I have also been a member of the Public Art Committee, the Facilities Master Plan Task Force Steering Committee, liaison to Team San Jose and the Airport Commission. Other commission experience includes:

Member - Commission on the Status of Women, County of Santa Clara

Chair - Santa Clara County Social Services Advisory Commission

Member - Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission

Chair - City of San Jose Human Rights Commission

Chair - San Jose Public Library Commission

Chair - Santa Clara County Board Of Education Committee on School District Organization,