

Candidate Profile – Personal Profile

1. Candidate Name Chuck Nelson
2. Office You Are Running For Brevard County Board of County Commissioners District 2
3. Phone Numbers.

home: (321) 453-4363

office: N/A

cell: (321) 543-7085

Please include a copy of your professional resume

4. Current Occupation: Retired – Resigned from the Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency Executive Director's position to run.
5. Education *(if not detailed on your resume)* Attached
6. Civic Involvement *(if not detailed on your resume)* Florida Sport Fishing Association, Propeller Club of Port Canaveral
7. Are you involved in or have been involved with a local Chamber of Commerce?

My involvement has been through governmental partnerships, Brevard County Parks and Recreation Department activities, as a County Commissioner for 8 years and through the Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency.

8. Have you run for office before? If so, when and what was the outcome? Yes No

In 2006, I ran for Brevard County Commissioner District 2, defeating the Republican incumbent in the Primary and a Democrat in the General Election. I ran for re-election in 2010 defeating multiple candidates with 63.5% of the ballots cast.

9. Party Affiliation Republican Democrat Other: _____

10. How long have you been registered as the above Party?

50 Years

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All candidates will also be invited to an in-person interview. Endorsements will be made based on both the completed survey and the in person interview.

Campaign Profile

1. Manager's Name Elizabeth Alward
2. Phone Numbers
office: N/A
cell: (321)794-6206
3. Treasurer Chuck Nelson, Deputy Treasurer – Gale Nelson
4. Other Consultants, Staff or Key Volunteers
Anthony Pedicini, Strategic Image Management
5. If qualifying by petition, how are you collecting petitions? I have chosen to pay qualifying fees and focus voter contact efforts on walking neighborhoods with literature.
6. How many fundraisers have you had? One raising over \$30,000
7. What is your fundraising goal? \$80,000
8. What type of voter contact are you budgeting for?
Handouts, Mail outs, Political Signs, Candidate Forums, Booths and Tables at political and community events
9. How many volunteers do you have engaged in your campaign and describe how you are engaging them?
There are currently approximately 25 volunteers with that number growing daily. The volunteers will be used to walk neighborhoods, build and deliver campaign signs and attend rallies and events with campaign shirts and literature.
10. Why are you running for this office?
Brevard County is at a crossroad. I believe my years of experience and leadership on the County Commission are needed to insure that we preserve and protect our Quality of Life, keeping taxes low without hurting services, investing in infrastructure to keep roads ahead of growth, continuing efforts to attract and retain companies that create jobs, protecting and restoring the health of the Indian River Lagoon and supporting our local Sheriff's Office, it's deputies and their mission to keep our community safe.

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Business Profile

1. Various organizations and interest groups make endorsements, contribute to campaigns and help build a support coalition for candidates. Please indicate groups or organizations that you would seek out to support your candidacy.

It's my belief that County Commissioners represent all residents, business and organizations. In my last election, I was endorsed by Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc, the Brevard County Professional Firefighters Local 2969, the Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association, the Melbourne Regional Chamber of East Central Florida and the Space Coast AFL-CIO. I was also supported by many Hoteliers and Restaurateurs, the business community and the environmental community. I will look to again, earn their support in the upcoming election.

2. The Business community should support my candidacy because:

My 45 years of governmental experience, including 8 years on the Brevard County Commission, have prepared me for the difficult responsibility of balancing community needs and resources. A vibrant business climate is essential for the continued growth of our County and requires leaders that are willing to make the difficult decisions that will ensure our economic gains continue.

3. Describe your experience that qualifies you for the position you seek, or to hold public office in general.

My long and successful career in managing government services and serving on the County Commission has provided me with a unique skill set for holding public office. I believe in being a good listener and invited the public to share their thoughts and concerns in over 200 citizen "walk-ins" held at the Cocoa Beach and Cocoa libraries. Additionally, I routinely attended community association and service club meetings. I believe being accessible to all constituents provides a better understanding of community needs. I also served on numerous advisory boards including the Aerospace Career Development Council, Jail Case Flow Working Group, East Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Economic Development Commission, Election Canvassing Board, Extension Advisory Council, Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program, Indian River Lagoon Counties Collaborative, Congress of Regional Leaders, the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization, Space Coast Growth Management Coalition, St Johns River Alliance and Space Coast Tourism Development Council.

4. What have you done to prepare yourself to serve in this office?

Since leaving office in 2014, I have continued to watch and discuss County issues with staff and elected officials. I served on the Charter Review Commission, was appointed by

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the Chief Judge to the 2016 Elections Canvassing Board and was employed as the Executive Director for a Redevelopment Agency.

Pre-Interview Questions

(For Legislative and County Commission races)

1. In the next 10 years, what do you believe will be the top three critical needs of Floridians/Brevard Country residents? What role will the office you are seeking play in helping meet these needs, and what plans do you have to help us do so?

I believe the top three critical needs will be Recovery of the Indian River Lagoon, improvement of infrastructure including roads, stormwater/flooding and sewer and protection of our Quality of Life which encompasses protection of our natural resources, smart growth initiatives and continuation of services needed in a well-rounded, caring community. As Commissioner, I will work to have the Lagoon plan implemented as quickly and efficiently as possible and to communicate those efforts to our citizens. I will encourage the full commission to have an “adult conversation” about infrastructure needs, drilling down on the information that has been provided to date and creating a plan that better identifies the needs and addresses the funding needed to implement the plan. Finally, the first two critical needs cannot be used as reasons to diminish funding to quality of life needs. A community with good roads and closed parks, no Meals on Wheels and no Arts will not attract and keep residents. We must do better.

2. How do you weigh decisions between the needs of your local district constituency and those of the county/state as a whole?

Needs vary throughout the County and it's critical that County Commissioners recognize that. While it sounds good to say we need to prioritize, when that process doesn't fairly distribute funds and resources, it shouldn't be supported. For instance, closing a park or library in one part of the county to fund a road in another is untenable. I believe when the County Commission sets priorities, it's imperative that the decision is made considering impacts to all parts of the county and all our citizens.

3. Assuming you are elected/re-elected to the Florida legislature/county commission, what will be your primary area of interest and what do you hope to accomplish in this area? What committees will you request if elected to the legislature?

I believe accelerating recovery of the Indian River Lagoon is the most significant issue to be addressed. We need to continue to insure the plan is effective and implemented in a timely fashion. Collapse of the Lagoon would have a catastrophic impact on property values, government revenues and services and the business community as people would leave and/or not want to move here. The effect on Brevard County would be similar to the

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loss of the Apollo and Shuttle Programs. I would work tirelessly to compel the County Commission to partner with the Lagoon Oversight Committee, State and Federal Representatives and Agencies, Scientists and the Community at large to complete this important mission.

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