

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

The following individuals are candidates for the MCA Board of Directors for three-year terms commencing at the conclusion of the 2026 Annual Meeting. Candidates were introduced at the November, 2025 Assembly Meeting (video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4i0UsAKfwY>), provided articles in the January 2026 Meadoword (see pages 4-6 here) and have provided additional statements on page 1-3. Election Ballots will be mailed during the week of February 16, 2026 and returns are due by March 12, 2026 - the date of the 2026 MCA Annual Meeting. See your ballot and proxy mailing for election details.

Michelle Johnston

Michelle A. Johnston, Ph.D., Dean Emerita

I have the experiences, knowledge, and skills and contributed to The Meadows whether as Membership Chair and President of the single-family homeowners and volunteer for Meadows Community Association (MCA) or as MCA Board member running for reelection because The Meadows needs stability and directors who know board operations. I was on hospital, YMCA, cancer foundation, museum, and independent school boards. Those boards had different missions but required members who promoted them. As an MCA Board Director, I support our mission and am liaison to the Activities, Safety Committees and Presidents' Council and am serious about my role.

I have a doctorate and post-doctoral studies psychology, leadership, and finance. I was Executive Director of a consortium and had budgetary and corroborative responsibilities for rural schools and communities, Later, as Dean at a state university, I had five programs offering courses in five locations and was President of the Michigan Education Deans' Council. I taught teachers and administrators in 10 states and several countries and worked internationally with college-level administrators.

I have the experience, knowledge, and skills to be re-elected to the MCA Board because I know board duties and can do the job. See www.meadowsmft.org.

Dora Laumer

My name is Dora Laumer and I have lived in The Meadows since 2018.

I do not oppose the Benderson lease, provided our community's assets are protected. I have never opposed golf in The Meadows, provided it is financially sustainable and benefits the community.

I am running for the Board because for too long, decisions—especially those involving our golf courses, finances, and long-term obligations—have been made without disclosure. Trust has eroded. Key decisions are being made by three Directors while other Directors are ignored, denied necessary documents and questions go unanswered. The Meadows needs a Board that is united, transparent, follows Florida Statutes, and draws on professional expertise from within our community.

Financial accountability has been lost. It's time for full transparency—financial reports must be presented at every Board meeting, without homeowners having to demand them by certified letter.

The Meadows has been through a lot. These times call for leaders who stand up for you and not be rubber stamps— I am ready to listen, find common ground, and make tough decisions for The Meadows. With my experience in operations, accounting, and collaboration, I have the skills needed to get results and restore trust. Website: tinyurl.com/mca-rc

Keith Peaton

Throughout my life and career, I've found that real leadership begins with listening. In law enforcement, I faced moments where immediate, life or death decisions were unavoidable. But whenever time allowed, the best outcomes always came from gathering information from people around me.

A board that stops listening to its own members and to the residents served risks becoming driven by ego rather than responsibility. That's why I believe so strongly in transparency, inclusion, and involving knowledgeable community members in the decision making process. When people with relevant experience and education are invited to contribute, the entire community benefits.

Even modern policing has embraced this truth: effective policy is built through collaboration, shared perspectives, and genuine teamwork. I've grown as a leader by listening to others, welcoming different viewpoints, and allowing those insights to shape important choices. When the same problems keep resurfacing, it's a clear sign that we must rethink our approach.

I'm not here to impose my opinions. I'm here to work alongside your partners to find solutions that serve as much of our community as possible. Together, through teamwork, openness, respect, and shared purpose, we will build a stronger, more united Meadows. Join me in accomplishing these goals.

Chris Perone

This past year has tested this community - but it has also revealed our strength. In moments like these, communities either struggle... or they rise.

With the abrupt closure of the club, displaced staff were brought onto the MCA team, reopened tennis, kept fairways alive, and reopened the Meadows Course. We launched Morning Coffee & Conversation and from that energy came our Wine & Cheese gatherings. These are reminders of who we are — a community that finds strength in togetherness.

Generous residents gave \$41,400 for the Meadows' Tree Fund, ensuring the Meadows remains the lush sanctuary we all cherish.

And most importantly, after meeting with over 10 golf organizations, we are currently negotiating a partnership with Benderson Development to operate our golf courses. This positions us to move forward.

Because moving forward is exactly what this moment calls for. The Meadows is entering a new chapter - one where we reimagine, reinvest, and rebuild with purpose.

I am asking for your trust and your vote so that we can continue this journey together - a journey fueled by optimism, resilience, and a deep belief in what the Meadows can become.

Let's build the next chapter of the Meadows - together.

See www.meadowsmft.org.

Laura Spears

DEEP ROOTS IN THE MEADOWS

My relationship with the Meadows began in 1980 when various family members, including my parents, purchased homes here. The community was a unique planned lifestyle development, the first of its kind in Sarasota, including beautiful greenspace, championship quality golf and tennis, and wonderful amenities for the membership and residents. Our combination of multi-family and single-family homes made our community a wildly popular venue for primary residences or vacation homes for people from around the world.

We can return the Meadows to that popularity. I believe all those amenities that attracted us here should be avidly promoted, not removed, going forward. The community cannot sustain the golf courses on our own. To that end, the opportunity with Benderson Development is a crucial first step.

Being a successful small business owner since 1983 gives me particular insight into the calculated risks and challenges required to achieve that success. Ongoing collaboration with highly experienced financial and legal representation is crucial, as is input from key management and valued employees. It is my firm belief that our current board is well positioned in these collaborations, and I look forward to the opportunity to join them going forward.

See www.meadowsmft.org.

Susan Whitcomb

I moved to The Meadows in 2014 and, for the past five years, have served as President of the Villa Majorca Association. I am running for this position because real leadership requires action, transparency, and accountability—qualities I consistently deliver and that our community deserves.

An effective Board works together—all nine members. Over the past year, three Board members have taken it upon themselves to make decisions without including the remaining six or sharing vital information with them. This approach is not only unhealthy for our community, it runs counter to the principles of Florida Statute 720 and puts us at risk of state scrutiny.

We need fresh leadership—Board members who collaborate, share information openly, and represent all owners, not just a small inner circle. A divided Board that withholds information is not transparent and does not serve the community's best interests.

I genuinely enjoy bringing people together, encouraging participation, and ensuring everyone feels included and valued. Our community deserves leadership grounded in real experience, real service, and real results.

My leadership is hands-on, practical, and proven. For me, leadership is not about titles—it's about action, integrity, and getting results for the community.

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES



REPRINT FROM THE JANUARY 2026 MEADOWORD

Available at:

https://www.themeadowssarasota.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/JAN_2026_MW.pdf

MICHELLE JOHNSTON



After moving to The Meadows in 2014, I supported the community in many ways. I volunteered for various initiatives from participating in the Meadows Single-family Homeowners' Association, as Membership Chair and President, to planting aquatic flora, surveying the residents, and authoring Meadoword articles. Later, I had the honor of being elected to the Meadows Community Association Board of Directors. As a Director, I serve the entire community and work to uphold the Meadows Mission of supporting the environment, lifestyles, and home values. I am Board liaison to the Activities and Safety Committees, and Presidents' Council.

I am running for the Board again because at this time there is a need for consistency and continuity

which I provide. Further, I have the skills, knowledge, and experience to continue to serve as a director. Specifically, I was an academic dean with budgeting and negotiating training and experiences. Three programs, which I oversaw, required adherence to strict legislative regulations, not unlike condominium and homeowners associations regulations. I operate collaboratively as evidenced by my experience working with educational and community leaders in 14 states and 8 countries. Lastly, I served on several boards and know how boards function regarding their fiduciary and mission-driven responsibilities.

You can view additional information at: Meadowsmft.org

DORA LAUMER



Professionally, I have 40 years' experience in Accounting/Office Management for privately held corporations, working daily with the entrepreneurs who built their corporations from startups. I formed strong working relationships with department managers and professional outside consultants.

Attending Board meetings the last two years, this election is very important due to the discord within the current Board and the action denying residents from attending meetings based on how their house is titled.

The Board must achieve unity through open communication and collaboration, ensuring the entire Board is involved in all decision-making processes from the start.

For The Meadows recreation/entertainment

facilities to be maintained and optimized, financial transparency is crucial. A "clean audit" does not reflect how efficiently facilities are managed – Profit & Loss Statements per facility are needed.

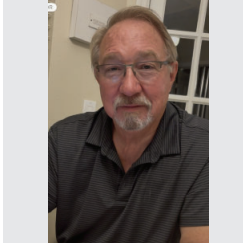
\$1 million has been taken from other projects to maintain the golf courses this year, assessments have tripled in eight years and the reserves are underfunded.

The Benderson transaction and the above challenges command strategic planning from a united Board, residents who possess solid business credentials and I can contribute my multidimensional career experience.

TOGETHER we can make a change for the better.

You can view my candidate website at: <https://tinyurl.com/dora4mca>

KEITH V. PEATON



Personal

I hold a bachelor's degree in social work with 3 years counseling experience. I dedicated 38 years to Law Enforcement, (1985 through 2023). Recently I launched my own business providing **Home Watch Services: (copshomewatchsrq.com)**. My professional journey has been rooted in service, accountability, and community protection—values I continue today.

Concerns:

1) Transparency:

The **Board of Directors** does not appear to be completely transparent with the residents. They seem to be withholding information at the meetings and with the material they distribute. There is also a disconnect among board members,

with indications that not all members receive the information necessary to form an **Informed opinion** before voting.

2) Cohesiveness and Inclusion

Eliminate the executive committee

All elected Board members will be provided with all the information needed to reach a fully informed opinion on all matters voted on. No member should be excluded from meetings where financial or legal issues are discussed. Attendance may remain optional, but exclusion should never occur!

The board should invite multiple community residents to participate in meetings when their professional or educational experience is relevant to the topic under discussion.

CHRIS PERONE



This past year has strengthened my commitment to The Meadows and to the shared vision we've been building together.

While some challenges were expected, others were not. The sudden termination of the Meadows Country Club lease and the bankruptcy that followed brought major parts of our community to a standstill. In moments like these, communities either pause—or they move forward.

I chose to step up and lead.

Meaningful progress was made. I restored transparent, consistent communication through frequent Constant Contact updates, Town Halls, and open-door office hours. Essential amenities—including golf, tennis, fitness, and the pool—were reopened following the TMCC collapse. Eight new pickleball courts were completed, and new community traditions like Morning Coffee & Conversation and Wine & Cheese Socials were created.

I conducted extensive outreach to leading golf management firms across the U.S. and Canada and led negotiations with Benderson Development to position The Meadows for stable, high-quality operations. I secured \$41,400 in resident tree donations, advanced the demolition of the former clubhouse, and led cleanup and beautification efforts in the Shopping Village. I also laid the groundwork for a Legacy Program to support The Meadows for generations to come.

Looking ahead, my priorities remain clear: protect property values, preserve green space, strengthen our lifestyle community, and maintain strong financial stewardship.

I would be honored to have your vote so we can continue moving The Meadows forward—together.

You can view additional information at: Meadowsmft.org

Additional candidate bios on next page.

Community News

LAURA M. SPEARS



My husband Ron and I first visited The Meadows in the late 1970s, when my parents bought a home here in the Spring Lake condo community. Since that time, having ourselves become property owners in Sheffield Green in 2002 and permanent Meadows residents in 2022, we have come to realize what a special place The Meadows is.

After 40 years, and passing down management operations of our family business to our children and assuming consultant roles, we retired here permanently in 2022. Since then, with more time to dedicate to the community, I have served as Vice-President on the Longcommon Community Association BOD, where we have an investment

property and were residents from 2007-2013, and on the Meadows Single Family Homeowners Alliance as membership director.

Unfortunately, with all the turmoil The Meadows has undergone in the last few years with regard to the golf, tennis, and clubhouse facilities, I feel it is imperative we undertake whatever necessary means of revitalization of those facilities for the sustainability of the property values of our wonderful community and the good of our residents going forward.

You can view additional information at: Meadowsmft.org

SUSAN WHITCOMB



For more than two decades, my leadership has been defined by service, accountability, and a commitment to strengthening communities. Before moving to Sarasota full-time, I spent 18 years in Trophy Club, Texas—another close-knit community much like The Meadows—where I led major community events in partnership with local organizations and surrounding towns. I was also asked to serve as a police liaison, improving communication and trust between residents and law enforcement. During this same period, I built and operated my own business brokerage firm while raising three children and staying actively involved in their schools. These experiences taught me how to lead with clarity, collaboration, and resilience.

In Sarasota, I have continued that work for more than 20 years. I served seven years on a downtown condominium board, five as president, gaining firsthand experience in governing, problem-solving, and navigating Florida condo law. My roles with both a developer and a management company overseeing 12 condominium properties further strengthened my knowledge of property management and resident relations.

For the past five years, I have served as president of the Villa Majorca Association. I am applying for this position because real leadership requires action, transparency, and accountability—qualities I consistently deliver and would be honored to serve this Community.