March 18, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
C. Lodge McKee II
RECIPIENT OF THE 2015 SAM NOE AWARD

Naples, Florida - Today, at its Regular Meeting, Naples City Council selected C. Lodge McKee II as the recipient of the 2015 Sam Noe Award. Lodge McKee is the longest serving board member in the City having served the City of Naples for 35 years on many boards and committees.

He was first appointed to the Board of Directors of Carver Finance in August 1980 when it was incorporated, and currently continues to serve on the Board as its President. The corporation was formed to oversee the financial management of the George Washington Carver Project. Over the years, there have been many volunteers appointed to the Board, but Mr. McKee is the only one who has been there since its inception. During his years of financial oversight, in 2005, George Washington Carver’s leasable property (buildings) was transferred to a new Michigan based lessee and property management company. Through innumerable meetings and with incredible paperwork, Mr. McKee helped to guide this transaction, which had to comply not only with HUD and Federal guidelines, but bonding also had to be secured in order to refurbish the interior and exterior of the apartments. During the renegotiating of the lease, Mr. McKee successfully insured that the continuance of the Carver Complex remained a subsidized low income housing community. The community remains managed and well-maintained in large part to Mr. McKee.

In addition to serving on Carver Finance, Mr. McKee also served on the following boards and committees of the City:

Planning Advisory Board - from 1984 to 1990 and Chairman from 1986 to 1989;
Co-Chair of the Rural/Urban Design Assistance Team Steering Committee - 1986; and

Mr. McKee has also been a long-time proponent of historical preservation which was also an area of interest for Sam Noe. In July of 1988, the City Council commended and honored the Planning Advisory Board when Mr. McKee acted as its Chair for (1) spending in excess of 30 hours in public hearings for the revision of the Comprehensive Plan, (2) devoting extensive time and effort to work with the R/UDAT, which contributed greatly to the future planning and preservation of the community, (3) deliberations and efforts of the PAB in regard to historic
preservation in the City of Naples resulting in the establishment of an historic district, and (4) sensitivity to the community needs and desires in the important issue of Key Island development.

Mr. McKee has been an annual winter visitor to Naples since 1948 and moved to Naples in 1970. He is an active Broker-Associate with Premier Properties, Old Naples Office with over 40 years of experience in the Naples real estate market. He has also served the community in other organizations, as follows:

The Old Naples Association as a founder and first president;
The Collier County Historical Society for 16 years;
The Collier County Historical Commission;
The Collier Automotive Museum Advisory Board;
The Friends of the Collier County Museum as a founder;
Southwest Heritage, Inc., the non-profit corporation which acquired and preserved the Naples Depot Museum; and
Naples Leadership and Leadership Collier.

The Sam Noe Award was established in 2006 to honor outstanding service by a member of a City board or committee in memory of Sam Noe who served on the Planning Advisory Board from 2002 to 2006. Sam Noe was a distinguished academic, planning consultant and advisor. He was a strong supporter both of community revitalization and historic preservation. He became an advocate for master planning the City’s gateway at the Gordon River and also worked diligently on legislation to save structures of importance to the community’s heritage.

Each year, an award is presented to a current or past member of a City of Naples appointed committee or board in Sam Noe’s honor to recognize exemplary service within the particular mission of that body by members of the City’s boards and committees.

Ethics above all else ... Service to others before self ... Quality in all that we do.