FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Naples, Florida - Today at its March 15, 2017 Regular Meeting, the Naples City Council passed a Resolution naming Linda Black as the recipient of the 2017 Sam Noe Award. She is the first female recipient of this award.

Ms. Black has served on the Community Services Advisory Board since 2009 and is currently the Chair. She has worked diligently for the past two years in helping to define and refine the City Tree Ordinance by recognizing the importance of preserving and protecting our city trees - especially the heritage canopy trees. As a member of the board, she was also part of the early design input phase of the creation of Baker Park, expressing concerns on a regular basis. Currently before the CSAB is the Park Master Plan which has consumed the board’s attention for the past year and is vital to the future of the parks within the City.

She is the currently Chair of the Citizens’ Police Review Board, serving since 2011 to the present. She also completed the Citizens’ Police Academy in 2012.

Ms. Black was also appointed to a Blue Ribbon Committee on September 4, 2013 to study and provide recommendations to the City Council on the level of compensation for the Mayor and Council Members, in accordance with the City Charter and in anticipation of the February 4, 2014 City election. Each Council Member appointed an individual to the committee, and Linda was appointed by then Vice Mayor Gary Price.

“Ethics above all else ... Service to others before self ... Quality in all that we do”
In addition, she was part of the City of Naples ID Theft Group Committee that was sponsored by, and part of, the Collier Identity Theft Task Force.

Her “community” service began more than 10 years ago when she became a board member with the Moorings Property Owners’ Association - now serving as its president for the past 3 years. After joining the board, she oversaw the complete renovation of the Moorings Beach Park. She was persuasive in her efforts to design new logos for the new decorative street signs and adding new decorative stop signs. And, finally, working successfully with city officials to completely replace the landscaping in the first two medians on Mooring Line Drive.

Ms. Black recognizes the importance of volunteer service - whether on an advisory board or some area of interest to a resident. She believes that this is one way in which our Mayor, Council, and City Manager can feel the pulse of our community and continually work to make improvements in the Paradise we know as Naples.

The Same 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 was a distinguished academic, planning consultant and advisor. He was a strong supporter both of community revitalization and historic preservation. Sam 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.

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