

Manatee County Commissioner Betsy Benac, At Large

Personal

Betsy Benac was born and raised in Saginaw, Michigan. She moved to Florida in 1982. Betsy and her husband, Bob have been married for 32 years and have two adult children, both graduates of Manatee County Public Schools.

Education

Arthur Hill High School, 1975

University of Michigan (BA) 1979

Assistant Planning Director, Manatee County Planning, 1983-1994

Vice President and owner, WilsonMiller Planning and Engineering, 1994-2010

Senior Project Planner, Benderson Development, LLC, 2010-2012

Member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED AP)

Member and past President of Florida Planning & Zoning Association, Gulfcoast Chapter

Member of American Planning Association

Public Service

Board of County Commissioners, Elected November 2012

- Member, 2012-present
- Chairman, 2015, 2017
- Second Vice Chairman, 2013, 2014

Port Authority

- Member, 2012-present
- Chairman, 2016
- Third Vice Chairman, 2015

Sarasota Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization

- Member 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

Civic Center Authority

- Member, 2012-2014
- Second Vice Chairman, 2013, 2014

Community Redevelopment Agency

- Chairman, 2013, 2014

Manasota Basin Board, Gubernatorial Appointee, 2000-2009

Sarasota Bay National Estuary Policy Board, 2006-2007

Manatee County Board of Zoning Appeals, 1998-1999

Community

Kiwanis Club of Bradenton, member since 1994, served two terms on the Board of Directors

Graduate, Leadership Manatee, Class of 1994

Governing Board Leadership Manatee, 1997-2000

Leadership Manatee Alumni Association Board, 2000-2003

Manatee Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors, 2008-2011
Manatee County Economic Development Council, Executive Board, 2008
Head Start Policy Board, 1998-2000
Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Board of Directors, 2006-present
Manatee Tiger Bay Board of Directors, 2011-present
Mentor at Daughtery Elementary School as part of the Big Brother/Big Sister programs
Reading PAL and Daughtery Elementary
Junior Achievement Instructor

Hobbies

Outdoor activities, including kayaking, biking, walking and snow skiing.
Enjoy traveling, reading and following the University of Michigan football team, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Tampa Bay Rays.

Awards

Leadership Manatee Kent Schultz Distinguished Leadership Award, 2010
Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, President's Merit Award, 2008