30 Years
MIAMI TODAY

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TWO MIAMI FACILITY MANAGEMENT DEALS MIRED IN A CITY COMMISSION TURF WAR, pg. 10

FYI MIAMI

AFTER COMPLAINTS, THANKS: Although some commissioners once lambasted their proposals and absenteeism during meetings, the Miami-Dade County commission Tuesday honored members of the 2012 Home Rule Charter Task Force with certificates of appreciation. Only four of the 20 task force members showed up for the award ceremony conducted by Commission Vice Chairman **Audrey Edmonson** before the start of the commission meeting. Among those missing were the task force chairman, State Sen. **Rene Garcia**, and vice chair **Evelyn Greer**. "We did a lot of work in a short period of time," said task force member **Terry Murphy**, who added that it was ultimately up to commissioners to weigh and decide which charter amendments should go on the county ballot in November. The commission approved fewer than half of the 16 proposals recommended by the task force, which was appointed to review whether changes or revisions should be made to the county's charter – tantamount to its constitution. The task force completed its work in June. "You all put in a lot of time in a very short time," Ms. Edmonson said. "Thank you so much for giving of your services."

OPERA LAND FOR SALE: The Florida Grand Opera has placed its downtown land on the market and now is awaiting offers for both the land and its $5.6 million, 35,779-square-foot Doral headquarters. The opera purchased the land downtown in 1995 with plans to build its home into a mixed-use project. Officials have not confirmed plans for what the opera will do after both properties are sold.

CAMERAS ROLLING: "Iron Man 3," the third episode in Marvel Studios' trilogy of war, terror and international arms deals featuring super-hero Tony Stark, will begin filming here Oct. 1. The movie, set for release in May 2013, will shoot in Miami for eight days and in Fort

THE ACHIEVER

Free stamp aim: cancel ballot fraud

By Lou Ortiz

Absentee voters – forget the stamp. The postage is free.

Miami-Dade County commissioners Tuesday agreed to pick up the $170,000 tab to provide return postage for absentee voters in the November election.

The resolution approving postage-free returns for ballots applies to all future countywide elections.

Most commissioners said they hope the measure will increase the number of voters, make it easier for seniors, and stem the tide of ballot-brokers who try to influence or manipulate resident votes, among other things that can also ultimately lead to fraud