

**Office of the Mayor
City of High Point
North Carolina
Resolution...**

- WHEREAS,** the High Point Community Foundation was incorporated in 1990 and funded with a \$5 million unrestricted gift in 1998 from Jim and Jesse Millis, Sr. after nearly eight years of behind the scenes work by a group of committed High Point leaders who understood their community needed a permanent financial resource that would always be there to provide for the unmet needs which they realized would be unique for every future generation; and
- WHEREAS,** High Point was blessed to have a remarkable collection of nine community leaders who came together under the leadership of *Jim Morgan, Founding Chairman*, who is an initiator, a doer whose passion and commitment drew others to the cause, and working with him in the initial planning was *Jim Millis, Sr., Investment Chair*, a textile mogul, who passionately loved his community and understood the importance of this resource that would eventually grow to over \$110 million in assets under management by 2022; and
- WHEREAS,** joined by men like, *Bill McGuinn, Vice Chair*, a dedicated community servant leader, a humble man who intimately understood the philanthropic landscape, *Bill Horney, Development Chair*, a real-life Horatio Alger story, a born salesman who worked tirelessly with Paul Lessard, Founding President, to grow the endowment, *Dr. Nido Qubein, Marketing Chair*, a force of nature, a marketing genius, who embraced the concept and generously poured his heart, talents and resources into the Foundation, *Phil Phillips, Board Development Chair*, an astute financial mind, who early-on saw the enormous benefits the Foundation could provide and contributed the first large gift to the endowment, *George Erath, Grants Chair*, a man of impeccable principle and integrity who was the perfect choice to head-up the Foundation's Grants Program, *Charlie Greene, Secretary*, a true entrepreneur whose energy and drive helped keep it all organized and last, but not least, *Charles Odom, Treasurer*, an accountant and pragmatist who could say no when necessary and kept all on the straight and narrow path; and
- WHEREAS,** in the very first year of the Foundation's existence the Board of Trustees approved granting over \$100,000 to nonprofits in High Point in an effort to show this resource was established to meet the needs of all High Point citizens, and in the next 24 years the Foundation would grant over \$100 million to meet needs in public education, poverty, social justice, healthcare, workforce development, downtown transformation, COVID relief and many other needs that have arisen in the community; and
- WHEREAS,** the Foundation has benefited from the strong leadership of its Board of Trustees which has included High Point's most gifted and knowledgeable leaders, who have given their wisdom, talents and resources to stay true to the Foundation mission of "Serving our Donors interests and meeting the community's needs" so that all in High Point may have the opportunity to reach their fullest God-given potential, and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Jay W. Wagner, Mayor of the City of High Point, North Carolina, resolve that the City of High Point does on this day February 7th, 2022 take note of these nine remarkable men who made up the Foundation's Founding Executive Committee to honor their exemplary vision, steadfast commitment and love for their community which has left a legacy that will continue to positively impact our community for generations to come.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of High Point, North Carolina this 7th day of February 2022.


Jay W. Wagner, Mayor