

# CITY OF HIGH POINT

## AGENDA ITEM



### **Title: Appointment of Chris Whitesell to the High Point Economic Development Corporation board**

From: Mayor Jay Wagner  
HPEDC President Loren Hill

Meeting Date: September 17, 2018

Public hearing: no

Advertising Date: n/a

Attachment: list of High Point EDC board members

Advertised by: n/a

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#### **PURPOSE:**

- The High Point City Council has a vacancy to fill on the board of the High Point EDC.
- The seat had been filled by Patricia Jones of Alorica and has now been declared vacant. The High Point EDC staff was recently told she left the company in March 2018. She last attended a HPEDC board meeting in February 2018 and has not communicated with the staff since then.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- The mayor nominates and the City Council appoints seven members to the High Point EDC board for two-year terms. The current terms for all seven positions expire on December 31, 2018.
- Mayor Wagner nominates Chris Whitesell to fill this unexpired term.
  - Chris Whitesell is the president and founder of New Path Digital, an internet marketing agency located at 101 West Lexington Avenue, Suite 102.
  - He is an experienced interactive marketer, media strategist, and consultant. Since 2008, he's worked with national, regional and local brands to develop and execute leading-edge marketing/advertising initiatives to drive profitable growth. His work in healthcare and higher education has been recognized at several industry conferences and award shows.
  - He currently serves the YMCA of High Point as chief volunteer officer and chairman of the board. He has volunteered as a sports coach and past leader for annual fundraising efforts.
  - He was named as one of the "40 Leaders under 40" by the Triad Business Journal in 2014.
  - Chris Whitesell lives at 600 Shamrock Road with his wife, Katie, and their three daughters.

#### **BUDGET IMPACT:**

- There is no budget impact.

#### **RECOMMENDATION / ACTION REQUESTED:**

- Mayor Wagner – who serves on the High Point EDC board – recommends that the City Council approve the appointment of Chris Whitesell to fill this unexpired term on the board of directors of the High Point Economic Development Corporation, effective from the date of his appointment through December 31, 2018.



NORTH CAROLINA'S INTERNATIONAL CITY™

High Point Economic Development Corporation

highpointedc.com

## High Point Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors

– As of August 17, 2018 –

### *Executive Committee*

Chair Darlene Leonard	High Point Mayor Jay Wagner
First Vice Chair Carlos Olvera	Immediate Past Chair Ken Smith
Second Vice Chair Royale Wiggin	High Point City Manager Greg Demko
Treasurer/Secretary Chris Patrick	High Point EDC President Loren Hill

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### *19 voting board members*

#### CITY OF HIGH POINT OFFICIALS

- Mayor **Jay Wagner**, Fisher Wagner PLLC
- Councilman **Jason Ewing**, Keller Williams Realty
- City Manager **Greg Demko**

#### HIGH POINT CITY COUNCIL APPOINTEES

*(two-year terms end December 31, 2018)*

- **L'Tanya Joy Bailey**,  
Dr. L'Tanya J. Bailey Orthodontics
- **Bruce Davis**, Kid Appeal Learning Center
- **Beth Earnst**, Akzo Nobel
- **Jackie King**, McDonald's of High Point,  
Jamestown, & Greensboro
- **Chris Patrick**, Fastenal
- **Royale Wiggin**, Thayer Coggin
- *(vacant seat)*

#### GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner **Hank Henning**, Brady Services

#### IMMEDIATE PAST HIGH POINT EDC CHAIR

- **Ken Smith**, Smith Leonard

#### BUSINESS HIGH POINT–CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

APPOINTEES *(two-year terms end December 31, 2019)*

- **Patrick Chapin**,  
Business High Point–Chamber of Commerce
- **Brian Gavigan**, Wyatt Early Harris Wheeler LLP
- **Maurice Hull**, MarketPlace Management
- **Darlene Leonard**, Smith Leonard
- **Carlos Olvera**, SERVPRO of High Point
- **Mark Prince**, Guilford Merchants Association
- **Scott Tilley**, BB&T Scott & Stringfellow

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### *17 non-voting members and liaisons*

#### STATE OFFICIAL

- N.C. Representative **John Faircloth**,  
Coldwell Banker Triad

#### PAST HIGH POINT EDC CHAIRS

- **Owen Bertschi**, Crescent Ford, Inc.
- **Charles Cain**, PL Developments
- **Don Cameron**, Don Cameron & Associates LLC
- **Bill McGuinn**, First Citizens Bank [retired]
- **Jeff Miller**, High Point Regional  
UNC Health Care [retired]
- **Jim Morgan**, Morgan, Herring, Morgan,  
Green & Rosenblutt LLP
- **Leah Price**, BB&T
- **Nido Qubein**, High Point University
- **Coy Williard**, Williard-Stewart, Inc.

#### GUILFORD COUNTY MANAGER

- **Marty Lawing**

#### HIGH POINT EDC PRESIDENT

- **Loren Hill**

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIES

- **Brent Christensen**,  
Greensboro Chamber of Commerce
- **Tom Conley**, High Point Market Authority
- **Ray Gibbs**, Forward High Point
- **Randy Parker**,  
Guilford Technical Community College
- **Jim Wehrley**, High Point University
- *(Leah Price, who is on the board as a past chair of the High Point EDC, also serves in 2018 as the High Point Convention & Visitors Bureau liaison)*