



March 24, 2017

Mr. Chris Ehrenfeld, Chair
Chatham EDC Board of Directors
P.O. Box 1627
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Dear Mr. Ehrenfeld:

The Chatham Economic Development Corporation nomination committee recently interviewed the new applicants for the Chatham Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors, which has two vacancies and two directors with terms ending. Mr. Dan Sundberg and Mr. Drew Weniger have completed two four-year terms and are no longer eligible for board service. Mr. Tom Roberts resigned from the board of directors upon relocating from Chatham County. Ms. Pat Richardson was deemed ineligible for continued board service due to the Chatham County residency requirement.

During the most recent application period, fifteen applications were submitted and interviewed. The Chatham EDC nomination committee recommends the following individuals for the director positions formerly held by Mr. Roberts and Ms. Richardson:

Lee Bowman

Mr. Bowman is the senior project manager of Newland Communities' Briar Chapel, which is the largest green community in the Research Triangle Region. Mr. Bowman has been a resident of Chatham County for eight years and is a member of the Chatham County Chamber of Commerce and the Chatham Education Foundation Ambassador program.

Chreatha Alston

Ms. Alston, a native of Chatham County, is the director of engagement services for the North Carolina Community College System. Ms. Alston serves on the board for the Chatham County Group Home and is also a licensed realtor.

We have enclosed their applications for review by the Chatham EDC Board of Directors. I believe you will find these applicants to be extremely capable to serve Chatham County in this capacity.

Sincerely,

Dr. T.E. Marchant, Mr. Dan Sundberg, Mr. Drew Weniger



Chatham Economic Development Corporation

Board Application

Name: Lee Bowman

Mailing Address: 48 Tobacco Farm Way, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Home Address (if different):

Home Phone: 919-370-3125

Work Phone: 919-951-0712

Cell Phone (optional): 919-697-1323

Email Address: lb Bowman@newlandco.com

Township of Residence: Baldwin

Are you currently serving on a board or committee in Chatham County? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list all boards and committees on which you currently serve:

North Chatham SECU Advisory Board; Chatham YMCA Board; Chatham Educational Foundation Ambassador Committee

Please list your educational background. Include names of schools and degrees held.

Terry Sanford High School (Fayetteville, NC) – Class of 1992; UNC-Chapel Hill (BA with Honors) – Class of 1996

Name of Employer: Newland Communities

Address of Employer: 1342 Briar Chapel Parkway, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Position: Senior Project Manager

Please list the names of the civic organizations in which you currently hold membership:

Green Home Builders of the Triangle; Chatham Chamber of Commerce; Triangle Community Coalition

Explain how your education, knowledge and experience will be an asset to the EDC. Although I am not a Chatham County native, I am a North Carolina native and have been actively involved in Chatham and counties nearby (i.e., Cumberland, Moore and Orange) for my entire life. I've nurtured a life-long interest in economic development and am well-versed on philosophies of smart growth, the intricacies of attracting business in a competitive marketplace, and the importance of educating and attracting a desirable labor pool.

Describe your vision for economic development in Chatham County.



With the promise of Chatham Park and the recertification of our mega sites, Chatham County is changing. The best things we can do as leaders is to work hand-in-hand in a united effort to preserve all that makes Chatham County special. At the same time, we must focus on attracting and enticing companies that complement – and see value in – our culture, infrastructure, skilled labor pool, and education and training potential with CCCC.

Doing so certainly has its complications as the County will need to target the growth in areas that have the infrastructure to handle development. This smart growth philosophy will require the County to help guide resources to these areas to supplement the necessary infrastructure as well as services and amenities.

Is there a particular aspect of economic development that interests you? Explain how you would like to be involved.

I have always had an interest in industrial location theory. In fact, as an economic geographer during my undergraduate days at UNC, my honors thesis focused on the location of the automobile industry in the Carolinas—specifically the BMW plant in Greer, SC. While that was more than 20 years ago and in a different part of the Carolinas, I remain very interested in the opportunities Chatham's two megasites provide for the automobile industry.

However, I am willing to serve the EDC in any capacity in which its needs can be bettered by my strengths. I feel that I understand the value of business and smart growth that Chatham County needs. By being a resident of the County for the past eight (8) years, I am keenly aware of challenges in balancing of growth while preserving the culture and rural character of Chatham County.

Briefly define economic development and tell us why you think it's important for Chatham County.

I see economic development from a variety of perspectives. One needs to wear many hats to be a good economic developer: a cheerleader, an advocate and a doer. Ultimately, economic development is about the creation of job growth based on the character of the locale one represents. In Chatham County, and especially for the residents of the western part of our county--where chicken plants and mills were once the predominant employers--we need these "blue collar" positions but we also need to focus on the future and look towards technology-based industries, many of which demand a highly-educated workforce and pay higher salaries. A balance of positions is needed to obtain smart growth, attract residents, and further enhance the county's tax base.

Describe how you would like Chatham to look in 2020? What sorts of people and businesses would be here?

My family established roots in Chatham County in 2008. I am excited to raise my daughters here - in a county that has great access to arts, education and green spaces. The culture and people of Chatham County are unique and I aspire to



preserve the charm that first attracted me through responsible growth and engaging quality employment opportunities for everyone across the county.

Please describe how your background relates to your interest in serving on the board. Chatham County is among the largest counties in the state and I possess a great deal of knowledge about this region – its residents, businesses and geography. As a developer in a Chatham County master-planned community, I work hard to attract new citizens to the area. My interest in attracting appealing jobs in sustainable industries compliments my professional goals and also my personal interests as a Chatham County resident.

How would you go about leading a team of ten volunteers tasked with attracting businesses to Chatham County?

I'd start by assessing each team members strengths (and weaknesses). Also, initially, I think it would be important to determine the various tasks needed to get done in order to achieve that specific goal related to attracting businesses to the County. Then, based on the duration of the project, I'd check in regularly with each of the team members and hold meetings as a group while the tasks were being undertaken. Concurrently, I'd follow-up with those EDC and County leaders to ensure that the progress being made was in alignment with their overall vision.



Demographic information (OPTIONAL)

We ask your help in assuring the diversity of membership on our boards and committees. This section is optional, and you may leave it blank.

Gender: ☒ Male ☐ Female

Date of Birth: 6/4/74

Ethnic Background: ☒ White, non-Hispanic ☐ African-American
☐ Hispanic ☐ Asian or Pacific Islander
☐ Native American ☐ Other _____

Please send completed application by March 15, 2017 to:

Chatham County Economic Development Corporation
Attn: Kyle Touchstone
PO Box 1627, Pittsboro, NC 27312
Fax: 919-545-8372
info@chathamedc.org



Chatham Economic Development Corporation

Board Application

Name Chreatha Alston

Mailing Address 722 Mitchells Chapel Road, Pittsboro, NC

Home Address (if different) _____

Home Phone 919-545-9545 Work Phone _____ Cell Phone 919-219-6825

Email Address chreatha@embarqmail.com

Township of Residence Pittsboro

Are you currently serving on a board or committee in Chatham County? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list all boards and committees on which you currently serve:

Chatham County Group Home

Please list your educational background. Include names of schools and degrees held.

MPA: Strayer Univ.; BBA: Strayer Univ. AAS Paralegal Stud.: CCCC; AAS Com. Eng.

Name of employer NC Community College System

Address of employer 200 West Jones Street, Raleigh NC

Position Director of Engagement Services

Please list the names of the civic organizations in which you currently hold membership:

Eastern Star Organization, Golden Circle Organization, Youth Gleaner Organization.

Explain how your education, knowledge, and experience will be an asset to the EDC.

My marketing knowledge, real estate background and Chatham County native experiences will bring value-add to the EDC because I can bring all of this experience into helping Chatham County grow.



Describe your vision for economic development in Chatham County.

My vision is for Chatham to maintain its rural character while incorporating slow, steady growth in housing and retail options for all economic walks of life.

Is there a particular aspect of economic development that interests you? Explain how you would like to be involved.

Housing options are of particular interest to me partly because of my real estate background and my prior work with Chatham Habitat for Humanity - it's important that we have affordable single family and rental housing in the county.

Briefly define economic development and tell us why you think it's important for Chatham County.

Economic development is financial and social growth in a community - it is important because Chatham is becoming a viable option for Orange and Wake county overgrowth and for transplant residents. We need to have a strategic plan so we do not grow too fast or in the wrong areas and become an Apex/Cary - whose growth spawned too fast.

Describe how you would like Chatham to look in 2020? What sorts of people and businesses would be here?

I would like it to maintain it's ruralness with small pocket neighborhoods that cater to unique businesses and offer more recreation options for Chatham County residents wholistically - not just North Chatham.

Please describe how your background relates to your interest in serving on the board.

I have a real estate, legal and marketing background that would offer knowledge and experience-based opinion/views for moving Chatham County forward.

How would you go about leading a team of ten volunteers tasked with attracting businesses to Chatham County?

I would do it collaboratively and collectively - incorporating volunteer input and opinions before developing a plan on how to attract those businesses.



Demographic Information (OPTIONAL)

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Gender ☐ Male ☒ Female

Date of Birth 1973

Ethnic Background

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