

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [Kelly Passauer](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board Application
Date: Tuesday, November 03, 2020 1:08:11 PM

Board Application

Board Applying For: Economic Development Commission

Name Brian Hight

Date 11/3/2020

Address 601 S Park BLVD, Independence, KS 67301

Email Address

Phone Number

Educational Background:

High School Name and Location Cherryvale High School

Graduated/Degree Diploma

College Name and Location Independence Community College

Graduated/Degree Associate of Science

Major Business

Other Education Name and Location Emporia State University

Graduated/Degree Bachelor of Science

Emphasis Business

Do you reside inside the corporate limits of the City of Independence? Yes

If no, do you reside within 3 miles of the corporate limits of the City of Independence? *Field not completed.*

What experiences have you had that you feel would assist you as a board member?

I co-founded Magnolia in Independence in 2006, then opened the store in 2008. We have been continually operating in the city since that time, and have been heavily involved in business and community development, as a rule, since the beginning. I have also volunteered on several boards including the Independence Chamber of Commerce both as the business development sub-chair, and board chair. I currently sit on the Innovative Business Resource Center board, with a turn as chair, as well as the financial review board for the Montgomery County E-community. Finally, I currently sit on the Independence Main Street Board.

Why do you want to become a member of the board?

I have a deep passion for maintaining and enriching the beautiful quality of life we enjoy in our little town. My expertise and experience in business and entrepreneurship have given me an outlet for that passion. I believe serving on this board is an excellent way for me to lend my voice and ideas toward the goal of making Independence an even better place to live by helping to enrich the economic environment in equitable, creative, and substantial ways. A rising tide lifts all boats, and the tools in this board's toolbelt must be leveraged to raise that tide.

Do you feel that there are any issues needing immediate attention by the board? If so, please explain.

The most pressing need is to ensure the business community comes through the pandemic as healthy as possible to provide a solid footing for the rebuilding. After that, my philosophy is that by supporting small, independent, entrepreneurial business owners and managers, we will achieve a diversified economy that provides good jobs, keeps profits local, and is able to weather storms much better than if that effort is spent trying to attract "knight-in-shining-armor" large employers whose loyalties are not always to the communities they occupy.

Other comments:

Field not completed.

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