From: Asheville Blade
Subject: Asheville Blade Buncombe County Commissioner candidate questionnaire
Date: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 12:56:28 PM

Good afternoon, Buncombe commissioner candidates. I hope this finds you all well. Below is the Asheville Blade's candidate questionnaire, containing a description section, a general question section and a yes/no section.

The deadline for submitting responses is Oct. 29, though earlier submissions are certainly welcome. Please include a photo and feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you for your time.

Best,

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Asheville Blade Buncombe Commissioners candidate questionnaire

Description

Name:

Profession:

In up to two words, describe your political affiliation:

In one brief sentence, describe yourself and why you're running:

General questions

These questions are about problems, challenges or topics facing county government and how you would try to deal with them if elected. Limit 300 words per answer.

1) The corruption charges against former County manager Wanda Greene and other former senior county officials have revealed major problems in local government. What factors do you believe led to this situation, and what changes should be passed to ensure a transparent and accountable county government?

2) The State of Black Asheville reports reveal multiple inequities — in fields like education, housing, health, labor and more — impacting the African-American community in both Asheville and Buncombe County. What steps would you support to address these issues?

3) What steps would you support to encourage sustainable growth and infrastructure improvements in rural, unincorporated areas of the county?

4) Buncombe has seen a major and growing problem with opioid overdoses. What harm

reduction policies do you favor to help save locals' lives and health?

5) The sale of Mission Hospitals to HCA Healthcare promises to bring in a substantial amount of property tax revenues for the county. What do you believe should be the county's top priorities for allocating these new funds?

Yes/No

These questions are about specific proposals the commissioners have or may consider, and how you would vote on them. The first word of each answer must be Yes or No. An explanation of one's position — or an alternative proposal — may follow, with a limit of 300 words. Answers in this section that do not begin with "Yes" or "No" will not be published.

6) Do you favor turning full control of the sales tax revenues collected from the additional tax passed in the 2011 A-B Tech referendum over to the community college for its maintenance and construction needs?

7) The explosive growth of the Airbnb industry has taken up a considerable portion of the housing stock in the city and county and, some critics assert, has furthered the local housing crisis. Do you favor a ban on future whole/home apartment Airbnbs in Buncombe County?

8) Do you support the repeal of the state law mandating Buncombe County's current district election system for county commissioners?

9) A federal court recently ruled that N.C. law can't bar transgender and non-binary individuals from using public restrooms and facilities that align with their gender identity. Do you favor Buncombe County adopting policies to ensure such access?

10) Earlier this year, the city of Asheville directed the adoption of policies proposed by the local NAACP directing that law enforcement get written consent for all voluntary searches and prohibiting the use of prior criminal record or "suspicious behavior" as grounds for pursuing such searches. Do you favor passing similar policies for the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office?