

Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce

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HAVE YOU EVER BEEN APPOINTED OR ELECTED TO PUBLIC OFFICE?

YES – appointed to Mona Shores School Board in 2007 and re-elected in 2010. Resigned position in 2013 to Coach in the district.

HAVE YOU EVER OWNED A BUSINESS OR HAS SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY OWNED A BUSINESS?

YES.- I have operated my own medical sales representative business for 30 years. I was also a partner in two other businesses. Medical Supplies Distribution, Zip Medical Supplies, for 5 years until selling out to partners. Home Health Care, First Light Home Medical, for 4 years until selling out to partners. My roles were all varied, from being the managing partner, to having more of a consulting role.

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE YOU POSSESS THAT MAKE YOU THE BEST CANDIDATE FOR THIS OFFICE.

I am a lifelong resident of Muskegon, the community has given to me and I am willing to give back. I have good mind for assessing challenges/problems and experience in being part of a board. I understand fiscal responsibility and have proven that ability by running several successful businesses. I was a high school volleyball coach and will implement some of the same strategies that made the program so successful. I also have many contacts and a good reputation in the community and have a good reputation amongst my peers.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE THE ROLE OF THE OFFICE YOU ARE SEEKING?

I see the role of County Commissioner is to oversee the budget and implement policies. We have competent people in place that have a job to do and I expect them to do it. I would be a part of a board that reviews, questions, supports or may request alternatives for the good of Muskegon County, the businesses that operate here and its residents.

WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER TO BE THE TOP THREE (3) ISSUES FACING MUSKEGON COUNTY BUSINESSES TODAY, AND IF ELECTED , HOW CAN YOU ADDRESS THEM?

1. An educated work force that has the academic ability to learn new technology. We have many great people, just not enough. Muskegon has an adult population where 1 in 5 adults are functionally illiterate. To address, raise awareness of the issue in the

county and promote awareness of organizations like, Read Muskegon, that works with adults to improve reading and English as second language.

2. Affordable housing limits the movement of workers and re-location to Muskegon. To address, continue to support programs that I recall seeing that are trying to provide more options.
3. There seems to be some very slow approvals at state level for projects in Muskegon, for a variety of different reasons. To address, I would try to work with our elected state representatives and senators to ease in an effort to ease these burdens.

HOW DO YOU BALANCE PERSONAL VALUES AND BELIEFS FOR PROBLEM SOLVING FOR THE PUBLICS ISSUES?

I am running to be a representative of and serve the people. I don't have any investments in Muskegon County that would be considered a conflict of interest. I only have a desire to see our town thrive, and be a great place to work or own a business, raise a family, and enjoy our shoreline, parks, and recreational options.

IN WHAT AREAS DO YOU FEEL YOU CAN MAKE THE MOST DIFFERENCE AS A LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL?

I know that I am a good listener and know that there are many issues/opportunities that I am not well-versed in. This approach can allow for innovations and ideas to be presented and potentially acted upon if they make good sense for the community.

HOW WILL YOU LEVERAGE AND UTILIZE THE MUSKEGON LAKESHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AS A RESOUCE SHOULD YOU BE ELECTED?

There is a tremendous amount of experienced business minds in this town and at the Chamber. I love to listen to their ideas on opportunities, troubleshooting, solutions, and long-term planning.

IF ELECTED, WHAT ARE YOUR TOP 3 PRIORITIES?

1. Maintain a higher level of fiscal responsibility and scrutinize spending to try and maximize investment.
2. Review the long term/short terms plans for downtown development
3. Raise awareness of the labor pool challenges and try to improve

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

Please let me know if you would like to have further conversations.

