

# CHATT ... About



A monthly publication of the Chatt Hills Community, a citizen-run news service that connects, informs, and engages friends & neighbors of Chattahoochee Hills, GA.

## Chatt Hills Candidates Forum

By: Laurie Searle, Citizen Reporter

I am proud to coordinate a candidates forum to assist the registered voters in Chattahoochee Hills in the important decision-making process of electing their next mayor and city council representatives in districts 2 and 4.



This special edition of the Chatt About Newsletter provides two levels of information about the candidates forum:

- Basic information – for those who are familiar with candidates forums in Chatt Hills and only need to know the date, time, and location. See page 2.
- Detailed information – for those who are unfamiliar with candidates forums or would like to know a bit of the political history of Chatt Hills. Begins on page 3.

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# Basic Information for 2017 Candidates Forum

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## Chattahoochee Hills **CANDIDATES FORUM**

Sunday, Oct. 8, 2017, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

City Hall • 6505 Rico Rd  
Chatt Hills, GA 30268

- ★ Get to know the Candidates running for the Nov. 7 election for the positions of Mayor and City Council Districts 2 & 4.
- ★ Submit questions prior to the event to [Lsearle@bellsouth.net](mailto:Lsearle@bellsouth.net), or during the event via a comment card.
- ★ Moderated by Ms. Juliet Hall from the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce.
- ★ Coordinated by Laurie Searle, from Chatt Hills Community.

### Forum Format

- Candidates will each make 3-minute introductory statement.
- Moderator will ask questions, giving each candidate 1 minute to respond.
- Candidates will each make a 3 minute closing statement.
- Forum will follow League of Women Voters protocols.

[www.chatthillscommunity.com](http://www.chatthillscommunity.com)

# Background Information

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## **The Making of Chatt Hills**

During the years of 2005-2007, two citizen groups worked on an effort to incorporate the area that is now the City of Chattahoochee Hills. Early efforts were led by the Chattahoochee Hills Country Alliance (CHCA), a nonprofit that formed in 2001 as a result of major landowners in south Fulton County organizing around a common mission and vision supporting the conservation of existing greenspace, land values, and sustainable development. Later efforts were led by the Chatt Hills Organizing Committee, a nonprofit that formed in October 2006 to develop and communicate a plan so that citizens could make an informed decision about incorporating.

Prior to 2005, other efforts had been tried to seek better representation than Fulton County had provided its unincorporated areas. Most efforts focused on annexing into Coweta County, a neighboring county that still had large rural areas adjoining the future city area. The last effort came close to succeeding, but lacked the full support of the Coweta County Commission.

What motivated another attempt – and a different approach – was a change in the Georgia Legislature. In December 2005, when the north Fulton community of Sandy Springs incorporated, the law changed to allow new cities to incorporate within three miles of an existing city. However, the Georgia Municipal Association announced its intentions to change the law back to its original wording after the 2006 legislative session. This meant that proposals for new cities had to be submitted by January 2005 in order to be considered.

## **Jan 2006 - Senate Bill 553 to incorporate City of Chattahoochee Hill Country**

In the winter of 2006, SB 553 was introduced to incorporate the City of Chattahoochee Hill Country. At the 12th hour, a state legislature decision pulled 7,000 acres of the Chattahoochee Hill Country into the new (proposed) city of South Fulton, thus removing one of three village sites in the 40,000 acre Chattahoochee Hill Country.

In March 2006, Gov. Perdue signed SB 553, allowing south Fulton residents the opportunity to vote to become the City of Chattahoochee Hill Country. The Chattahoochee Hill Country Alliance held community meetings to educate the community about the referendum process:

- Community would form committees to work on the future city plan
- South Fulton registered voters would vote on the referendum in June 2007
- If the referendum passed, south Fulton registered voters would elect officials in November 2007
- The city would receive its charter in December 2007

## **Chatt Hills Organizing Committee**

After a failed annexation attempt into the City of Palmetto, the Chattahoochee Hill Country Alliance reassessed its options. It decided to form a new community organization called the Chatt Hills Organizing Committee to research the viability of forming a new city and share that information with the citizens so they could make an informed decision at the polls.

On October 3, 2006 The Chatt Hills Organizing Committee held its first public meeting at the Rico Cultural Center with 70 citizens in attendance.

On December 2, 2006, the Tomlinson-Graham Group led the group through a visioning session which resulted in a mission and vision statement for the organization:

- **The vision** is for a locally controlled, locally protected Chattahoochee Hill Country.
- **The mission** is to develop a plan which outlines revenue sources, services provided and other aspects of establishing the city of Chattahoochee Hill Country and to communicate this plan to the community such that an informed electorate goes to the polls in June 2007.

On December 5, 2006 the Chatt Hills Organizing Committee elected the following officers: Tom Reed, President; Larry Keith, Vice President; Sandra Storrar, Secretary; and Julie Wall, Treasurer.

Over the next six months, the Organizing Committee recruited more than 150 citizens to help research the feasibility of forming a city. It then hosted a series of neighborhood information meetings to share its research with citizens.

On May 19, 2007, the Organizing Committee hosted a Community Information Gathering at the Georgia Baptist Children’s Home to share the May’07 feasibility study prepared for the City of Chattahoochee Hills Country by Georgia State University’s Andrew Young School of Policy Study. That study showed the city could financially support the required city services with its current tax base.

In the next month, the Organizing Committee coordinated a door-to-door campaign to share this information with all registered voters in the area and inform them about the vote on June 19 to incorporate the City of Chattahoochee Hill Country.

### **City of Chattahoochee Hill Country is Incorporated**

On June 19, 2007, nearly 50 percent of the 1,381 eligible voters cast their vote in the referendum to incorporate the City of Chattahoochee Hill Country in Fulton County, Georgia. The vote carried by 569 residents voting Yes and 112 residents voting No.



# Background Information

## Chatt Hills Election History

Since the June 19, 2007 referendum passed to incorporate the City of Chattahoochee Hills Country, Chatt Hills has had four general elections and two run-off elections. Its 5<sup>th</sup> general election is scheduled for November 7, 2017.

Initially the City Charter set the terms for the mayor and all five council seats as four-year terms expiring on the same date every four years. On January 5, 2010, the Chattahoochee Hills City Council adopted Resolution 10-01-74 to stagger the terms of the mayor and council. To facilitate that change, the terms for the positions of mayor and council members for Post 2 and 4 were reduced to two years for one time beginning with the term that started in January 2012. The four-year term for the positions of mayor and council members for Post 2 and 4 were re-established in the terms that started in January 2014.

Election Date	Term	Candidates		
Nov. 6, 2007 Special Election	2008-2011	Mayor	Council District 1	Council District 4
Dec. 6, 2007 Run-off Election		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don Hayes (R) *</li> <li>Tom Reed (R)</li> <li>Rocky Reeves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ruby Foster</li> <li>John Taylor *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faye Peek Godwin *</li> <li>Wayne Stradling</li> </ul>
			Council District 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doris Boylen</li> <li>Carl Hattaway (R)*</li> <li>Mark Prater</li> <li>Mickey Tierney</li> <li>Julie Petty Wall (R)</li> </ul>	Council District 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ernie Henderson (R)</li> <li>Rodney Peek (R) *</li> <li>Hugh Tyer</li> </ul>
			Council District 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anacleto "Cleto"</li> <li>David Hanson (R) *</li> <li>Alton Powell</li> <li>Laurie Searle (R)</li> </ul>	
Nov. 8, 2011 General Election	2012-2013	Mayor	Council District 2	Council District 4
Dec. 6, 2011 Run-off Election	2012-2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tom Reed *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carl Hattaway</li> <li>Richard Schmidt *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faye Peek Godwin *</li> </ul>
			Council District 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Taylor *</li> </ul>	Council District 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don Hayes *</li> <li>Tully Dempsey</li> </ul>
			Council District 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Hanson</li> <li>Laurie Searle (R)</li> <li>Claire Williams (R) *</li> </ul>	

Election Date	Term	Candidates		
Nov. 5, 2013 General Election	2014-2017	Mayor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tom Reed *</li> </ul>	Council District 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Richard Schmidt *</li> </ul>	Council District 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faye Peek Godwin *</li> <li>• Alton Powell</li> </ul>
Nov. 3, 2015 General Election	2016-2019		Council District 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• James “Ricky” Stephens *</li> </ul>	Council District 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Hanson</li> <li>• Claire Williams *</li> </ul> Council District 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don Hayes *</li> </ul>
Nov. 7, 2017 General Election	2018-2021	Mayor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tom Reed</li> <li>• Marcia Lee</li> </ul>	Council District 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Richard Schmidt</li> </ul>	Council District 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alan Merrill</li> <li>• Rebekah Michaels</li> </ul>

**Notes:**

\* Denotes winning candidates.

(R) Denotes candidates in the run-off election.

To win an election in Chattahoochee Hills, 50% + 1 of the total votes for each position are required.

# Background Information

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## Chatt Hills Forum Tradition

### First Forum

The tradition of a candidates forum dates back to October 2007 when a forum was held for the 19 candidates who ran for the first election in our new city of Chattahoochee Hills.

The forum was held at Foxhall Farms, across the Capps Ferry Bridge in Douglas County. The event was coordinated by citizens from the Chatt Hills Organizing Committee, with the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County serving as moderators.

Six tents were set up – one for each of the positions of mayor and the five city council positions. Moderators asked questions of each candidate, followed by questions from the audience.



2007 Candidates Forum at Foxhall Farm

### Second Forum

The second forum was held in November 2011 at City Hall. The event was coordinated by members of the Chatt Hills Civic Association and others, (Margaret Clime, Sylvia Redic, Melea Brett and Nancy Green Leigh), with the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County serving as moderator. In this election, only council district seats 2, 3, & 5 were contested. The event began with a meet and greet, and then was followed with three forum sessions, one of each of the three contested council seats. The moderator asked questions of each candidate, followed by questions from the audience, which had been submitted on comment cards. An opportunity to address the audience was given to the candidates running in uncontested positions.

### Third Forum

With no organized civic group still active in Chatt Hills, I volunteered to coordinate a 2017 candidates forum following similar procedures as before.

Hoping to utilize a moderator from the League of Women Voters, I contacted several branches but either got no response or was told someone would call me back and they never did. After making additional inquiries, the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce suggested a gifted public speaker, Ms. Juliet Hall, who had moderated a South Fulton forum. Ms. Hall agreed to moderate our forum at no cost. (A donation basket will be available at the forum for those who would like to show their appreciation.) Worth noting, Ms. Hall does not live in South Fulton, and has no affiliation with any candidate.

Looking for additional volunteers to help during the event, the Chatt Hills Business Network came to mind. However, the group's leader sent a reminder that the network does not participate in political events (however individuals may). With that said, I extended an invitation through social media and my newsletter invitation for residents to submit questions before – and also while at – the forum. As luck would have it, five or six residents responded to the invitation with an offer to help out at the forum.

Since it is important to some groups, I'll mention that this forum has no affiliations or sponsors with any groups: not the City of Chattahoochee Hills, not the Chatt Hills Business Network, not the League of Women Voters (LWV).

# 2017 Candidates Forum

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## Chatt Hills Forum Q&A

A number of residents have asked questions about the upcoming forum. The Q&A provided below may also help future forum coordinators.

### Q1. Is the League of Women Voters Involved in the 2017 Forum?

A1. No, the League of Women Voters is not involved. The original intention was to utilize a moderator from the League, but they were unavailable. However it made sense to utilize the League's format since it was used in the last two Chatt Hills forums. Fortunately the "Moderators Handbook by the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts," was available online so it will be used as a guide for the 2017 forum.

Worth mentioning - The League of Women Voters is a nonprofit and as such it has restrictions per the IRS as what it can and cannot do when it comes to politics. Therefore the Handbook has an Appendix called LWV Guidelines for State and Local League Debates including "empty chair" debates. An empty chair debate is when only one candidate for an office shows, either because only one is running or an opposing candidate declines to participate. The handbook says this could show a potential favoritism towards a candidate, which nonprofits are restricted from doing.

A call to the Georgia Secretary of State answered the question, "Are there any restrictions about empty chair debates for individuals (not non-profits) hosting an event. The Secretary of State Election division said there are no such restrictions in Georgia's election rules. That means all of the 2017 candidates who want to participate, can.

### Q2. What is the goal of the 2017 forum?

A2. The forum's overarching goals are to provide a fair, informative, respectful, and inclusive platform for candidates to present their views to the public.

### Q3. Are all candidates invited to participate?

A3. Yes, invitations were sent to all of the candidates (see page 11):

<b><u>Mayor (At Large):</u></b>	<b><u>City Council District 2</u></b>	<b><u>City Council District 4</u></b>
Tom Reed (I)	Richard Schmidt (I)	Alan Merrill
Marcia C. Lee		Rebekah Michaels

It was decided to allow participation in the forum for every candidate who wanted to participate, so that the citizens have an opportunity to have their questions answered and the candidates can reach a larger audience.

The incumbent candidate for mayor accepted the invitation; the opposing candidate for mayor declined the invitation; however, the invitation remains open in case she changes her mind.

The unopposed incumbent candidate in council district 2 accepted the invitation.

Both candidates in council district 4 accepted the invitation.

#### Q4. What has been done to ensure the forum is unbiased and fair?

A4. The forum coordinator agreed not to publically endorse any candidate until after the forum, or to use the Chatt Hills Community Newsletter, website, or Facebook to endorse a candidate.

The forum moderator lives outside of South Fulton County and has no affiliation with any candidate. She is not charging a fee for the forum, and she will be using the same format as in past forums in Chatt Hills.

The forum team consists of volunteers.

Questions for the forum have been solicited from the community, including 600 subscribers on the email list and through shares on Facebook an additional 600 residents, representing all communities in Chatt Hills. Additionally questions may be submitted during the forum. The moderator will select the questions.

All questions will be sent to the candidates after the forum, so they may answer any questions that didn't get asked due to time limitations, if they so desire.

The forum moderator has secured a videographer for the forum, at no cost, so that the forum may be accessible to those who cannot attend. This is her gift to our community.

#### Q5. Who is on the forum team?

A5. The forum team consists of the following people:

- Coordinator: Laurie Searle, Chatt Hills resident
- Moderator: Ms. Juliet Hall, Cobb County resident and professional speaker
- Logistics Team for Day of Event: Citizen volunteers including (so far) Karen Hattaway, Jett Hattaway, Julie Wall, Deborah Griffin, Chris Marks.

#### Q6. Do you have any advice for others who wish to coordinate a forum in the future?

A6. Make contact with the League of Women Voters well before campaign season to secure a moderator. Considering joining the League to support this group.

Recruit a few trusted friends to monitor your progress and give constructive feedback, and follow-up if something needs to be corrected.

Do your best to keep the forum neutral and fair.

Remember that the forum is to benefit the community and the candidates.

# 2017 Candidates Forum

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## 2017 Chatt Hills Candidates Forum (Handout)

### Program

1. Welcome: Laurie Searle
2. Introduction of Moderator: Laurie Searle
3. Introduction of Candidates: Juliet Hall
4. Candidate Forum: Juliet Hall
5. Closing: Laurie Searle

### Format

The moderator will lead the event by asking each of the respective candidates questions and potential follow-up questions to obtain more detail or clarification for an answer. Some questions may be asked of all candidates, while other questions may be asked to specific candidate positions.

- Opening statement – 3 minutes (alphabetical order)
- Questions for candidates – 1 minute
- Additional questions from audience via comment cards – 1 minute
- Closing statements – 3 minutes (reverse alphabetical order)

### Participating Candidates

The following candidates have confirmed their participation:

- Tom Reed, candidate for mayor; Richie Schmidt, candidate for council dist. 2; Alan Merrill and Rebekah Michaels, candidates for council dist. 4.

### Moderator

Ms. Juliet Hall is a former member of the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce, and has recently moderated a mayoral candidate forum for the City of South Fulton. She is a former 20-year corporate executive of two Fortune 500 companies, including 17 years with Chick-fil-A, Inc. A graduate of Spelman College and The University of Georgia, Ms. Hall is a sought-after keynote speaker as a thought-leader on self-motivation and servant leadership. [www.juliethall.com](http://www.juliethall.com)

### 2017 Candidates Forum - Question Card

Who is the Question for:     Mayor Candidate     City Council Candidate     Both

What is the topic:                      Vision ▪ Leadership ▪ Collaboration ▪ Local Government ▪ Citizenry ▪ Public Services  
(Circle one)                              Community Development (zoning and such) ▪ Economic Development (businesses & jobs)

Question: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

# Appendices

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## Invitation to Candidates for Bios and Questionnaire – Sent 8/25/17

[Sent to All Candidates]:

As the editor of the Chatt About Newsletter which has an online subscription of approximately 600, I would like to introduce our residents to the candidates who qualified to run for municipal office in Chattahoochee Hills.

I am extending an invitation to the candidates to answer the list of questions that was prepared by the League of Women Voters of Georgia and the AJC newspaper in 2011. The questions are the same, with the exception of number 7. This one had to do with approving a 1 cent sales tax, which since passed, so I added a relevant question to the City of Chattahoochee Hills.

If you would like to participate, please send your responses to me by close of business on August 30.

If you would not like to participate, I would appreciate a reply as well so I can be sure you received this invitation.

I also wanted to inform you that I am in the process of coordinating a candidate forum at City Hall. I have requested a moderator from the League of Women Voters of Georgia, and the date of Oct. 5, to allow time enough before early voting begins on Oct. 16. This date had not been confirmed yet, but I will send the candidates an update as soon as I have confirmation.

### Candidate Questions

Please answer the following questions. I will copy and paste them as is, with no editing. You may include a photograph of yourself if you like.

Name:

Occupation:

Education:

Family:

E-mail:

Website:

1. Why are you running for office?
2. Describe your education, training and experience that qualify you for this position.
3. What will be your priorities during your term of office and how will you pursue them?
4. What is the city's biggest challenge and how would you address it?
5. How will you engage voters in your district in identifying issues that are important to them and how will you ensure progress is made on these issues?
6. Due to falling revenue many cities are making tough choices about city services. How would you prioritize the city budget and other financial investments involving tax dollars?
7. How do you plan to establish and/or nurture important relationships with the City of South Fulton, Fulton County, and other cities and agencies that are critical to the success of Chattahoochee Hills?

For the mayoral candidates, please answer the following:

8. Georgia's unemployment rate is approximately 5%. In your capacity as mayor, if elected, what will you do to encourage economic growth and job creation in your city?

## Invitation to Candidates to Participate in Forum – Sent 9/12/17

[Sent to All Candidates]:

Thank you for recently responding to the candidate questions which were printed in the September edition of the Chatt About Newsletter.

To further assist the candidates and engage the community, I would like to invite you to participate in a candidate forum. Would you please respond by September 15 to let me know if you are available to participate?

Candidate Forum

Date: Sunday, October 8, 2017

Time: 3-5 p.m.

Location: Chatt Hills City Hall

### ABOUT THE FORUM

#### Goal:

The forum's overarching goals are to provide a fair, informative, respectful, and inclusive platform for candidates to present their views to the public.

#### Host:

As has been the practice in the past, a community group hosts a forum for the candidates and invites a guest from outside of the city to moderate. Since we no longer have a civic association, I have offered to coordinate this forum. I will refrain from publically endorsing any candidate until after this forum.

#### Moderator:

Juliet Hall from the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce has been invited to moderate this event. Ms. Hall lives outside of our community and is politically neutral and free of any identification with a candidate's campaign. She is a former 20-year corporate executive of two Fortune 500 companies, including 17 years with Chick-fil-A, Inc., and is currently a professional motivational speaker. She has experience moderating candidate forums, and recently moderated one of the forums for the City of South Fulton's mayoral candidates. See: <http://www.juliethall.com/>

#### Questions:

I will solicit questions from the community via the Chatt Hills Community email list (600 subscribers), Chatt Hills Community website, and social media. Ms. Hall will then select a number of those questions for the mayoral candidates and the city council seat candidates.

#### Format:

The program will begin with a short meet & greet. Then each candidate will be invited to give a timed introduction; the order of speaker will be determined by a coin toss. Next the question and answer forum begins, with the moderator asking each candidate the same question, and the candidate giving a response within the time limit. This is not a debate, so there will be no back and forth between candidates. Once all of the questions have been answered the moderator will invite each candidate to give a timed closing remark.

#### In closing:

The Forum will only take place if the candidates participate. I hope you will, as past forums have been a very positive experience for the candidates and the community.

## Save the Date - Chatt Hills Candidate Forum - Sent 9/12/17

[Sent to Chatt Hills Community email list of approximately 600 subscribers, and Chatt Hills Community Facebook]:

Please save the date for a Chatt Hills Candidate Forum:

Date: Sunday, October 8, 2017

Time: 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Location: Chatt Hills City Hall

6505 Rico Rd, Chatt Hills, GA 30268

Coordinator: Laurie Searle

Lsearle@bellsouth.net (770) 463-5169

### About the Forum

An invitation was sent to all five candidates who qualified to run in the Chatt Hills November 7 municipal election. To date the following have confirmed they will attend:

- Mayor: Tom Reed (I)
- City Council District 2: Richard Schmidt (I)
- City Council District 4: Alan Merrill,
- City Council District 4: Rebekah Michaels

**Forum Goals:** The forum's overarching goals are to provide a fair, informative, respectful, and inclusive platform for candidates to present their views to the public.

**Host:** As has been the practice in the past, a community group hosts a forum for the candidates and invites a guest from outside of the city to moderate. Since we no longer have a civic association, Laurie Searle has offered to coordinate this forum.

### Moderator:

Juliet Hall from the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce has agreed to moderate this event. Ms. Hall lives outside of our community and is politically neutral and free of any identification with a candidate's campaign. She is a former 20-year corporate executive of two Fortune 500 companies, including 17 years with Chick-fil-A, Inc., and is currently a professional motivational speaker. She has experience moderating candidate forums, and recently moderated one of the forums for the City of South Fulton's mayoral candidates. See: <http://www.juliethall.com>.

### Questions:

The community is invited to submit questions for the forum to [lsearle@bellsouth.net](mailto:lsearle@bellsouth.net). The moderator will select from these questions, and also from those submitted on comment cards on the day of the forum.

### Format:

The program will begin with a short meet & greet. Then each candidate will be invited to give a 3-minute introduction; the order of speaker will be determined by a coin toss. Next the question and answer forum will begin, with the moderator asking each candidate the same question, and the candidate giving a one-minute response. Once all of the questions have been answered, each candidate will be invited to give a 3-minute closing remark. Note: This is not a debate, so there will be no back and forth between candidates.

Please share the attached Save the Date Flyer.

## **Candidate Confirmation Letter – Sent 9/16/17**

[Sent to the 4 candidates who accepted the invitation to the forum]:

Thank you for responding to the Candidate Forum invitation. The forum has been scheduled and the announcement below [Save the Date] will be sent to the community this weekend.

I will follow up with you again prior to the forum to provide last minute details.

Regards,  
Laurie Searle  
770-463-5169

==

[Sent to the 1 candidate who declined the invitation to the forum]:

Thank you for responding to the Candidate Forum invitation.

Even though you declined the invitation, I wanted to keep the door open in case you changed your mind or maybe your supporters would want you to participate. So I worded the announcement by saying, “To date the following have confirmed they will attend.”

The forum has been scheduled and the announcement below [Save the Date] will be sent to the community this weekend. I will send the candidates an update with last minute details before the forum.

Regards,  
Laurie Searle  
770-463-5169

## Candidates Forum Event Reminder – Sent 10/3/17

[Sent to All Candidates] [Slightly modified version sent to Chatt Hills Community email list]:

This is a reminder of the Chattahoochee Hills Candidates Forum:

Date: Sunday, October 8, 2017

Time: 3–5 p.m.

Location: Chatt Hills City Hall

6505 Rico Rd, Chatt Hills, GA 30268

### The Forum Team

The forum team has been hard at work to make this event an opportunity for the candidates to meet & greet their constituents and to answer questions from citizens.

- The coordinator, Laurie Searle, will have the meeting room set up with light refreshments for a 30-minute meet & greet at 3:00 p.m. The forum will begin at 3:30 p.m.
- The moderator, Ms. Juliet Hall, has studied the questions submitted so far, and has also spent time learning about our community.
- The volunteers include a number of citizens from through-out Chatt Hills. They will collect and sort questions cards from the audience at the event, and keep time for the Q&A.
- A videographer will be recording (possibly streaming) the event, so that the forum may be accessible to those who cannot attend.

### Day of Event Information for the Candidates

- Please arrive by 2:45 p.m. so we may give you any last minute instructions.
- Please dress in business casual, or however you feel most comfortable. If you need suggestions on what to wear when you're being recorded see:  
[http://www.nacubo.org/Distance\\_Learning/Speakers\\_Corner/What\\_To\\_Wear\\_On\\_Camera.html](http://www.nacubo.org/Distance_Learning/Speakers_Corner/What_To_Wear_On_Camera.html)
- Please do not wear any campaign material (such as buttons, or signs) while at the event.
- Please be mindful of the speaking time limits: 3 minutes for an opening and a closing statement; one minute to answer questions.

### Additional Information for the candidates and the citizens

A Special Edition of the Chatt About Newsletters "Forums" has been prepared for the candidates and citizens. It includes both basic information for those who are familiar with Chatt Hills candidate forums, and detailed information for those who are unfamiliar with candidate forums or would like to know a bit of the political history of Chatt Hills. The newsletter is attached and available at: [www.chatthillscommunity.com](http://www.chatthillscommunity.com)

On behalf of the forum team, and we wish you luck with the forum and with your campaigns.

Regards,

Laurie Searle  
770-463-5169