

Brian McPhillips

Sullivan County Legislator, District 3

BY ANTHONY MORGANO

Age: 42

Education: Graduated from Liberty in 1999. Graduated from Mount Saint Mary College, Cum Laude, in 2003. I Majored in History/Political Science and Minored in Business Administration.

Place of employment: I am employed by New Hope Community. I am also the District 3 representative on the Sullivan County Legislature, and I am a licensed Realtor with Keller Williams

Current title and duties: I am currently the Facility Manager at New Hope Community. All vehicles, grounds and structures are part of our department. We are a support system for the Agency and do whatever we can to assist in the daily lives of people with disabilities.

Years of experience: Over 20 years in the Facilities and Construction trades.

Why did you choose this career? My father was an electrician for Liberty Schools and always worked in the facilities field. I always wanted to be as knowledgeable in all the trades as he was. I have been led by two very important people in my professional life who always went above and beyond for me and my professional growth. Gary Sawyer and Robert Deima, now unfortunately passed, were Facility Managers whom I worked under that were instrumental in shaping me into who I am today. The same can be said for Bill Prince, Bob Milling and Tariq Iqbal, my past and current managers, who were willing to invest in me and allow me learn the lessons I needed to suc-

ceed. They taught me that leading by example, hard work, reliability and working as a team is far more important than personal accolades.

Favorite part of your job: Although it is a career, I feel no difference in my private life vs. my work life. New Hope Community has been deeply rooted in a history of being a large family. I am very lucky to have shared so many great memories with co-workers and those we support. The devotion of the staff for the work they are tasked makes this job very rewarding. Our Facilities Crew is a great group of dedicated people who are committed to our Agency Mission, who do what it takes to get the job done. They are a group I highly respect, and I am forever grateful for them being part of my life.

Most challenging part of your



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Brian McPhillips

job: We hold very high standards in which the Facility is expected to be maintained. We also have a very large footprint across the County so being pulled in many different directions, handling Capital Improvement tasks, working with

time constraints, preventative maintenance tasks as well as daily work requests while trying to stay on course is very challenging. Managing a 24 hour facility means you need to be ready for any emergency, day or night, weekday or weekend and knowing your actions and decisions can directly impact the lives of others is not taken lightly.

Favorite on-the-job memory: Our department has been part of some great team building excursions as well as supporting each other daily. Being there for each other in times of joy and sorrow, the support we have for each other, will forever stay with me.

How do you manage your time: I don't sleep. I try to maximize the hours in a day to get accomplished what I feel is on my plate. Running a facility and being involved in both Politics and Real Estate you need to make yourself available to others at all times of the day and night. I have worked very hard at always being approachable and being there for those that have issues and concerns.

What advice do you have for someone entering your field? Real Estate – Be honest, treat every sale like it is yours personally. Politics – Be true to yourself, owe nobody, be honest and listen. Facility Management – Do not take short cuts and be reliable. Even if you may not be able to fix something yourself know the avenues of how to get it handled correctly. Working in the field of supporting those with Informational and Intellectual disabilities (IDD) is such a rewarding career to be involved with. If you are looking to be challenged yet care deeply for those you work for, this is the service field for you.

Who inspires you? My family. I truly believe in the American dream, I work so they can have a better life. A little over 100 years ago my grandfather came to this county with nothing and each generation has worked as hard as possible to make the future generation that much better off than themselves. I do what I do not for me but so hopefully my daughters won't have to work as hard as I did. I would do

and give them everything I possibly can, for I am nothing without them.

Favorite movie or TV show: Gladiator

Favorite actor and/or actress: Jim Carrey

How do you spend your spare time? With my family or spending time outdoors, decompressing. I also have a small fortune invested into Legos and collectables, even though my wife refuses to call them anything other than toys.

Favorite vacation spot: Davenport, Florida

Family: I have been married to my beautiful wife, Jennifer, for 14 years. Our daughter Kristen lives in Florida, Emily who lives in Liberty and our baby girl Keira who is 8 going on 16.

If you could have any job, what would it be? A job where the money aspect or health coverage wasn't a necessary component. If I were ever able to become financially independent, I would like to lead a company as CEO or devote more time in government in an Executive capacity.