



Where do I vote?

Check the link below for voting locations.

<http://www.wheredoivotema.com>

All polling places are accessible. The Town of Brookline does not discriminate based on disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services or activities. Individuals who need auxiliary aids for effective communication in programs and services of the Town of Brookline are invited to make them known to The ADA Coordinator, Town of Brookline, 11 Pierce St., Brookline, MA 02445

Telephone: 617-730-2330; TDD 617-730-2327

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Precinct 1: BU-Wheelock College, 43 Hawes Street,
Monmouth Street Entrance

Precinct 2: Ridley School Gymnasium,
Stedman Street Entrance

Precinct 3: Morse Apartments, 90 Longwood Ave

Precinct 4: Brookline Town Hall, 333 Washington Street

Precinct 5 & 5A: (New) Lincoln School, 19 Kennard Rd

Precinct 6: BHS Schluntz Gymnasium, 115 Greenough Street

Precinct 7: O'Shea House, 61 Park Street

Precinct 8: Ridley School Gymnasium, Stedman Street Entrance

Precinct 9: Senior Center, 93 Winchester St

Precinct 10: Driscoll School, 725 Washington Street

Precinct 11: Driscoll School, 725 Washington Street

Precinct 12: Runkle School Gymnasium,
50 Druce Street (Front Entrance)

Precinct 13 & 13A: Runkle School Gymnasium,
50 Druce Street (Front entrance)

Precinct 14 & 14A: Hayes School Gymnasium, 100 Eliot Street

Precinct 15: Fire Station #6 (rear), 962 Hammond St

Precinct 16: Putterham Library, 959 West Roxbury Parkway

Precinct 17: Coolidge Corner Library, Community Room,
31 Pleasant St.

VOTERS GUIDE

BROOKLINE TOWN ELECTION 2025

A Publication of the Sara K. Wallace Fund for Voter Education of the
League of Women Voters of Brookline

The Voters Guide is now online at VOTE411.org



The Sara K. Wallace Fund for Voter Education

The Sara K. Wallace Fund for Voter Education of the League of Women Voters Brookline was established in 1977 to promote informed and active participation of citizens in government.

The Sara K. Wallace Fund supports voter registration drives, candidate debates and forums, Candidates Night, and Afternoon, publishes the Voters Guide to Town Elections annually and the periodic publication of Brookline Close Up. These activities are made possible through tax-deductible contributions from Brookline residents and businesses.

Donate online:

<https://tinycloud.com/2p8wv3sm>

Or mail your contributions to:

SKW Fund for Voter Education
League of Women Voters Brookline
PO Box 32
Brookline, MA 02446



The League would like to thank the Town Clerk's Office for its cooperation in providing information for the 2025 Voters Guide.

The League would also like to thank Ken Liss and the Brookline Historical Society for providing the historical information for this year's guide.

<http://brooklinehistoricalsociety.org>

Publisher: Berkshire Eagle, Pittsfield, MA

Production Staff: Ernie Frey, Diana McClure, Shana Penna, Joel Shoner

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this Voters Guide.

If Voters have questions, they are encouraged to contact their candidates.

The League policy is that we do not edit the responses from the candidates.

Incumbency denoted by * next to candidate's name.

LWV nonpartisan Policy

The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. The League does take positions on issues after study and consideration but does so separately from voter service activities

Which Town-Wide Offices are on the Ballot May 6th?

The following Town-Wide Offices are on the Ballot on May 6:

One Select Board Member for Three Years

Four Trustees of the Public Library for Three Years

Three Members of the School Committee for Three Years

Five Constables for One, Two or Three Years - (Terms Assigned According to Votes Received by Each Candidate)

Five Town Meeting Members for Three Years:

In Precincts: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

One Town Meeting Member for Two Years:

In Precincts 3, 4 and 17

One Town Meeting Member for One Year:

In Precincts 2, 12 and 15

Two Town Meeting Members for One Year:

In Precinct 17

♦ SELECT BOARD

Description: The Select Board is composed of five members who are elected for three-year terms. As the Chief Elected and Executive Officers of the Town, the Select Board is vested with all the municipal authority not specifically retained by the Town's legislative body, the Town Meeting. The Select Board appoints a Town Administrator, responsible for the daily management of the Town. The Select Board issues the Warrants

for Town Meetings and makes recommendations on the warrant articles; initiates legislative policy by inserting articles in Town Meeting Warrants and then implements the votes subsequently adopted. It adopts town administrative policies; reviews and sets fiscal guidelines for the annual operating budget and the six-year capital improvements program and makes recommendations to Town Meeting on the same. The Select Board appoints department heads and members of most official boards and commissions; holds public hearings on important town issues and periodic conferences with agencies under their jurisdiction and with community groups; represents the Town before the General Court and in all regional and metropolitan affairs; and enforces Town By-Laws and regulations. The Select Board also serves as the licensing board responsible for issuing and renewing over 600 licenses in more than 20 categories, including common victualler, food vendor, liquor, lodging house, open-air parking lot, inflammables, special events and entertainment. The Select Board meets every Tuesday, unless otherwise posted.

Question 1: Biographical Data.

Question 2: What major development and fiscal challenges face the Town and how would you address them?

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than One

Liz Linder (new) / 31 Station Street

1. For over 20 years, I have lived and worked in Brookline Village. I built a successful photography business based on a passion for visual communication and the power of connecting with others. I've spent decades serving a wide range of clients, offering a window into a variety of industries, institutions, and individual stories.

As a P4 TMM, I've served on committees for projects involving residential and commercial development and transportation, including the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, developing a community-supported vision and plan for Brookline.

My work with organizations including the BCF, the BHA, Arts Brookline, and therapy dog work at our libraries & Senior Center has connected me with the vibrant fabric of our town.

2. The Select Board holds weekly meetings with time for public comment. Members of the community are also able to submit comments via email to the Select Board. Individual Select Board members are available to meet with constituents. Select Board members Warren and VanScoyoc send weekly email updates to keep the community informed. It would be helpful to have the Select Board send a scheduled, unified update that provides important information. This update could include a summary of comments and questions offered by the public. I would also like to see Brookline.news work with the town to create a weekly or monthly Select Board column that speaks to issues and concerns raised by residents.

Carlos Ridruejo (new) / 16 Holland Rd

1. I immigrated to the United States to pursue architecture studies, earning both a Bachelor of Architecture (Cornell) and a Master of Architecture (MIT). After completing graduate school, I met my wife, Alisa Kahn, and in 2005, we chose Brookline as the ideal place to raise our family. Our son currently attends the Runkle School. My family and I enjoy volunteering in Runkle PTO fundraising activities. I'm a licensed architect with a LEED AP BD+C sustainability credential. I have served on the Advisory (Finance) Committee since 2019 as a member of the Capital and Land Use subcommittees. In addition to serving on Zoning (Lower Boylston and Chestnut Hill West) and Design Review committees, I am a Precinct 14 Town Meeting Member.
2. The Select Board can play a crucial role in addressing residents' concerns, particularly if there's a structured process. For example, implementing clear response timelines, such as acknowledging inquiries within 48-72 hours and where possible, resolving issues within two weeks, ensures accountability.

A public tracking system could be set up to allow residents to monitor progress, reducing their frustration. Adding regular listening sessions and improving meeting follow-ups would ensure ongoing engagement.

A structured feedback loop—acknowledging receipt, reviewing concerns, updating residents, and publicly reporting progress—would provide transparency. Improved and posted newsletters and public satisfaction surveys are other tools that could foster trust and credibility.

Michael Rubenstein (new) / 130 Willard Road

1. I've lived in Brookline for over 30 years. With my wife Elizabeth Skavish, a professional classical pianist, we have raised our two children here; both attended the Heath (now Hayes) School. I co-founded a software company with my brother in 1985 and built it into a successful global business of almost 400 people. Subsequently, I devoted myself to public service at the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization and as a trustee of two schools providing opportunity for underserved students. Currently, I am a Town Meeting Member in Precinct 13, and I co-founded the Yes! in Brookline coalition to forge meaningful compliance with the MBTA Communities Act, expanding housing and economic development in our transit corridors.
2. Concerns or questions about the activity of a specific department, such as the Building department, are best taken to Department directors. If they can't respond satisfactorily, residents should appeal to the Town Administrator, and finally, to the Select Board. In addition to addressing a specific concern, the Select Board should review the policies and practices of Town Government so that the underlying general concerns are also addressed. The Select Board should regularly communicate with residents in such cases until they are resolved.

If residents have a concern about a warrant article or policy, they should raise their concern through public comment. The Select Board's responsibility is to acknowledge the receipt of such feedback, and then incorporate the feedback into their actions. Their response to the feedback should be captured in the votes taken on the matter at hand.

♦ TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Description: Twelve are elected as Brookline Library Trustees to oversee services and programs provided at the three Brookline public libraries. Each year after the May election, the Trustees elect 4 officers from their membership: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The Trustees represent the interests of the Brookline electorate in matters concerning library policy; they oversee the hiring and function of the head librarian and investing and spending a specific portion of the library's trust funds (gifts and bequests made to the library over the years either for specific purposes or to an "unrestricted" fund). Other activities include planning library events like Brookline Reads, authors' groups and lectures and exhibits; looking at long range planning for library services; having input on physical plant maintenance issues; reviewing and improving library policies; representing library patrons' interests to the Select Board, the Advisory Committee and Town Meeting as needed; and other activities that arise from patrons' input, trustees' concerns or staff concerns. Meetings of the whole Board of Trustees are held one evening a month in the Trustees Room of the Brookline Village Library. Subcommittee meetings are held as needed (these include committees on public relations, fiscal matters, library services, buildings, etc.). (No salary; no health insurance.)

Question 1: Biographical Data.

Question 2: What are one or two significant issues with the Libraries you are hearing from Brookline citizens and how would you address them?

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Four

Michael A. Burstein* / 50 Garrison Road, #1

1. Town Meeting Member since 2001; never missed a meeting. Library Trustee since 2004; chair 2014-2016, 2021-2024. Endorsed by PAX in all elections. Harvard College: A.B., Physics; Boston University: M.A., Physics. Brookline resident 1991-3, 1995-date. Teacher (1995-2004): Cambridge School of Weston, Rashi School; Editorial Manager (now): Savvas Learning Company. Condominium owner in precinct 12 with twin daughters, age 15. Award-winning science-fiction writer and editor.
2. Brookline residents consistently request longer hours from their library system. Over my many years as a Trustee, I have done what I can to advocate for this expansion, which would include an increase in the library's current \$4.7 million budget. And although residents haven't been saying anything about this, I am concerned about the federal government's attempts to shut down the IMLS, a vital resource for libraries across the country.

Judith A. Vanderkay* / 16 Columbia Street

1. I'm a 40-year resident of Brookline with a passion for libraries. I grew up in Massachusetts, got my B.A from Smith, and then went to the University of Wisconsin for my Master's in English. I moved back to Massachusetts and earned an MBA from Simmons. My career started in fashion advertising; then I moved to the tech sector, where I still work as a consultant

to technology trade associations. My husband and I sent our two sons through the Brookline schools. I've served as a Trustee since 2007 and as a Town Meeting Member for Precinct 9 since 2011.

2. The Brookline community loves our libraries! The concerns that residents have expressed to me have focused on their anxiety about how the chaos in our federal government will affect the library. When concrete information is available, the Trustees will work with the Director to mitigate any ill effects of federal actions. We have a creative and innovative staff, and I am confident that we will be able to surmount the worst of the hardships that may lie ahead.

Batia Bloomenthal (new) / 43 Thorndike Street

1. Hi there! My Name is Batia Bloomenthal. I am a longtime Brookline resident, Public Library of Brookline patron and advocate. But more than that, I am a former employee of the Public Library of Brookline with a career there spanning 27 years. Over those two decades, I was a Library Page, Circulation Assistant, Library Assistant, Reference Librarian, and the Putterham Library Branch Supervisor. My cumulative years of experience, my direct knowledge of internal library processes, and established working relationships with current library staff makes me uniquely qualified to be a member of the Brookline Trustees of the Public Library.
2. The Public Library of Brookline is facing internal and external challenges. Internally, Library staff are experiencing low moral, high staff turnover, and a fractured relationship with library administration. The Board of Library Trustees must continue to find ways to repair the loss of trust created by the previous director.

Externally, attempts to censor library collections continues to threaten the library's mission of providing free and open access to information.

The Executive Order calling for the elimination of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (a federal agency) places future funding sources for the library in jeopardy.

Digital literacy is also an area of concern. Scammers and threat actors are preying on our most vulnerable populations. The library needs to position itself to provide more cybersecurity educational awareness programs to help protect the community.

Joseph Michael Elasmr (new) / 1757 Beacon Street

1. Joey Elasmr attended Runkle School from K-8 and is a senior at Brookline High School. At BHS, he volunteers at the school library, helps lead the Student Library Advisory, and skis for the Nordic Ski team. He also volunteers with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary where he is a Flotilla Staff Officer. Next fall, he will be attending Boston College.
2. The main issue the public library faces is poor staff retention and morale. Librarians are the foundation of a library, so ensuring they are satisfied is necessary to maintain a practical, and cost effective library the whole community can benefit from. But in Brookline, it is clear that many staff are not happy with their situation and the turnover is extremely high with

29% of full time and 40% of part time staff having been hired in the past year. As a trustee, I will work to create a strategy for effective communication between staff and leadership. When we hire the next library director, I will make sure it is someone capable of creating an environment where staff are happy, and feel a sense of belonging. The next director must be able to rebuild trust between library leadership and staff, and be held accountable for how their decisions impact the staff.

Felina Silver (new) / 34 Perry Street

1. I've lived in Brookline my entire life, and my family and I still live in the home where I was raised. I'm committed to volunteering for several Town branches that require committed people who are prepared to put in the time necessary to find solutions for a variety of local problems, including but not limited to housing, schools, community relations, climate challenges, and more.

People visit Brookline because of its stellar reputation for safety, its moral fiber, and its highly regarded educational system. Here, families grow for generations. The fact that my family is one of them makes me proud.

I appreciate the chance to give back to the community that helped raise me.

2. Staffing is the main issue that residents have expressed to me. People are concerned that the workforce doesn't get along and has a lot of turnover. The other problem was that there weren't enough volunteers or employees to keep the library running smoothly.

There weren't enough staff members to monitor noise levels, assist patrons at the checkout desk, or direct them to the appropriate books. I regularly visited the library after hearing these worries. Indeed, there is a need for additional personnel. It would be beneficial to increase the number of volunteers. It's possible that staff members aren't available to oversee volunteer staff. Paid Staff could share this responsibility, or a volunteer with this particular background could be found to maintain that direct responsibility. When there is more help, staff morale will return. It's my goal to see this through.

♦ SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Description: Nine Brookline residents are elected to 3-year staggered terms with authority to select and to terminate the Superintendent; to review and approve budgets for public education; to seek funding to support its programs from available Town, state and federal sources; and to establish educational goals and policies for the public schools consistent with the requirements of law and state-wide goals and standards established by the State Board of Education. The School Committee generally meets on Thursdays twice a month from September through June at 7:00 p.m. in the James F. Walsh School Committee Room, 5th Floor, Town Hall. (No salary; no health insurance.)

Question 1: Biographical Data.

Question 2: What are three of the most important features/functions of the Brookline Public Schools and three of the least?

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Three

Helen Esther Charlupski* / 523 Boylston Street

1. I have been a School Committee Member since 1992, leading in the areas of high-quality early childhood programs, student mental health, and improving our school buildings. I have been a chair (or served on) the Capital, Finance, and Curriculum Subcommittees and have led building committees for the renovations at Lawrence, Pierce, Ridley, and Runkle Schools. I was EDCO Board Chair 2009-2013; a member of the Early Childhood Advisory Council 1994 – present, Chair 2000-2002; and a Board Member of the Brookline Community Mental Health Center. I hold a BA & MSW from the University of Michigan (Go Blue). I am the proud parent, with my late husband Dr. Joseph Biederman, of Runkle/ BHS grads Itai, Daniela, and Ari

2. I don't believe there are any least important functions, If there were, we wouldn't be doing them. The 3 most important: 1. Public education is the cornerstone of democracy. Our former PSB mission statement is still our most critical function, especially in this moment: to ensure we provide every student the skills and knowledge to participate thoughtfully in democracy. 2. One of our greatest strengths is the diversity of our student population, and ensuring that every student feels valued, seen, and supported. That's why we made educational equity a core value. 3. Brookline has been a leader in the idea of educating the whole child. From our program to support new parents with their baby's early development to offering the wide array of arts, sports, music, and more from K–12, Brookline gives every student a chance to discover and pursue their unique skills and passions

Valerie Frias* / 61 Griggs Road

1. I am a parent of twin boys and my children are the center of my life and my inspiration for wanting to be part of Brookline School Committee. My boys started at BEEP Putterham, then we were a proud Driscoll family, and now they are freshmen! So I've had the privilege of the full PSB experience, and still

have active personal interest in the success of our schools. I've been an active member of the town and school community since moving to Brookline.

I am currently the Deputy Director of the Elder Justice Unit in the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General. Before I joined School Committee, I partnered with superintendents in Brookline and around the Commonwealth as a trusted advisor on policy and legal matters.

2. Student Experience

We must prioritize student facing programs and offerings. Budget decisions need to start with the understanding that, what happens in our classrooms and our schools, is what shapes our children's futures.

Fiscal Responsibility

Competent fiscal management is crucial to ensure Brookline's resources are allocated efficiently and effectively. We must insist on transparency and accountability from our administrators and financial managers.

All Students

It is critical that Brookline nurture every student's potential by addressing the unique needs of each student, regardless of background or learning profile. We must ensure that all learners have access to programs that challenge and provide opportunities for growth and achievement.

Academic Excellence

Brookline must regain our status as educational leaders.

Akiva Leibowitz (new) / 94 Mason Terrace

1. I am a critical care physician and a Brookline parent who has lived in this town for the past 10 years. My 4 children, are past, current and prospective students in the Brookline Public Schools. Outside of medicine, I am involved and committed to supporting public education, involved in a variety of issues, including social justice and free speech. Amongst others, I am co-founder and former board chair of Hajar Bilingual Jewish-Arab School – one of the very few truly equitable K-12 institutions in Israel/Palestine – where I gained experience in creating, supporting, and protecting a public educational institution in a highly constrained environment.

2. We need leadership that is committed to protecting free speech and “freedom to teach” alongside critical inquiry and inclusivity; that sees through complex issues; and that is prepared to listen carefully, diagnose accurately, and solve problems skillfully.

Top priorities include:

Meeting every student's needs: Creating equitable frameworks, understanding that education is not “one size fits all”.

Trusting teachers: If we are to successfully partner with educators, we must show confidence in their ability to guide our students into becoming critical thinkers, capable of expressing their innate talents and gifts.

Inclusivity and academic excellence: Education thrives on excellence. But excellence is not limited solely to academic

achievements; it also means helping students become freethinking, curious citizens of this world by advancing inclusivity, compassion, and social justice.

Danna Perry (new) / 1265 Beacon Street

1. I grew up in Coolidge Corner and spent time in New York City, Cape Cod and the Bahamas before returning to Brookline to enroll my kids in our public schools for kindergarten. They attended Lawrence and FRR Schools and are now in 11th and 12th grade. Throughout these past 13 years, I've been an active member of the PSB community. I still live in Coolidge Corner (made possible by my grandmother's apartment), and work as a Project Manager/Administrative Support at an academic medical center in Downtown Boston.

2. The three most important School Committee functions are the three main statutory roles: establishing policy, approving the budget, and hiring and evaluating the Superintendent. I have already been deeply involved in the first two aspects, as a community member/parent. I served on the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) and worked closely with School Committee members and administrators on special education issues (requiring a deep understanding of education mandates and federal, state, and local policy). I have also been very involved with the district on policy regarding civil rights, bullying prevention, and anti-bias work.

It's difficult to say what the least important functions of the School Committee are! I do understand that the Committee has limited authority around day-to-day operations within our school buildings.

Logan Potere (new) / 146 Winthrop Road

1. no response
2. no response

Robert J. Weintraub (new) / 112 Columbia Street

1. For almost 40 years, I worked in the trenches of our public schools -- in Arlington, Lowell, and Brookline, Mass. I directed an alternative public high school in Arlington for students who were unsuccessful in the larger high school. I was the founding principal of a K-8 magnet school in Lowell that was a defining component of Lowell's voluntary desegregation program. Our school was featured on CBS News for our unique "micro-society" curriculum and for our selection as one of the 50 best elementary schools in the nation. For 19 years I was the head of Brookline High during which we were known for our innovation -- focused on "local solutions to national educational challenges." I have serious concerns about our schools, and great hopes.

2. Most important:

1. The most important function of any school system is to make sure that every student has a "dignified next step." To accomplish this, the system must be intentional in organizing itself to do the best it can to meet the academic and social/emotional needs of every student. That is educational equity.

LWV BROOKLINE VOTERS GUIDE – TOWN ELECTION MAY 6, 2025

2. Stable and inspirational leadership is a defining characteristic of great school systems. Stable leadership allows a school system to organically define its problems, work to address the problems, and to innovate. Stable leadership builds a strong organization, and a strong family.

3. Competent and creative budgeting-- at the central office and at the schoolhouse -- is essential, especially in these times of fiscal constraints.

Least important:

1. Top-down decision-making
2. Politically driven curriculum vs a powerful academic center of gravity
3. "Screens"

♦ CONSTABLES

Description: Five registered voters are elected to serve as Town Constables. Constables are required pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, Section 92 to be bonded in order to serve and execute the following documents in the Town: summons and complaints with damages not exceeding \$2,500; executions not exceeding \$2,500; real estate attachments not exceeding \$2,500; and writs and trustee process not exceeding \$2,500; civil and criminal arrest warrants; summary process summons and complaints and evictions under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 239; subpoenas and writs from District Courts, Superior Courts, the Supreme Judicial Court and Federal Courts; restraining orders; probate and family court process; criminal process; Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 209A restraining orders; small claims notices; and posting of Town meetings, warrants and other notices. Fees for services rendered by constables are established by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 262, Section 8. Starting with this election, Constables shall serve staggered three year terms. The highest two candidates shall serve a three year term, the next two will serve a two year term, and the fifth highest will serve a one year term. (No salary; no health insurance.)

Question 1: Biographical Data.

Question 2: What should a Brookline resident most understand about the duties of an elected Constable and what are your qualifications?

Joseph Figler* / 346 Newton St

1. A lifelong resident of Brookline, residing with his wife Tricia Desingco Figler, their children Vaile, William, Brayden and Sarina (all currently in the BPS) in Precinct 15. He is a Vice President for the Bank of New York and has worked in the financial services industry for over 20+ years. Educated by the Brookline Public School system, with a BA from Clark U. and a Master's of Science in Finance at Brandeis U. He has served as a Brookline Constable since 2012. Prior to being a Brookline Constable he was appointed 3 times as a Constable for the City of Somerville. As a Constable, he has served over 4,100 notices in Brookline and over 8,500 throughout Eastern Mass. He is a Brookline Youth Lacrosse coach for Grades 1+2 Boys and 3+4 Girls.

2. The role of a constable is to serve process in a disinterested manner. Not to judge but to simply serve process and execute the orders of the court.

I was trained by my father who was a constable in the town of Brookline for over 40 years, I was a member of the Mass Bay Constable Association for 10 years where I build a network of Constables to work with and learn from and have an extensive track record of hands on experience servicing over 4,100 notices, carrying out over 100+ executions for possession (evictions) and executing over 100 Administrative Warrants during my tenure.

Regina Frawley* / 366 Russett Rd

1. MA, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. Town Meeting Member 30 years. Resident, South Brookline nearly 60 years.

Two generations Brookline schools.

2. Constables serve papers, put up notices. No one likes to be served, even if only a witness in an action. I deeply understand this, and believe I perform a professional, respectful role in an otherwise difficult time or situation.

Neil Gordon* / 87 Ivy St

1. Neil is a Precinct 1 Town Meeting Member, a member of the Advisory Committee, Chair of the Advisory Committee's Administration & Finance subcommittee, a member of the Town's Taxation Aid Committee, and a member of the Town's Homelessness Task Force. He has served on a number of Moderator's and Select Board committees, and is otherwise active in Brookline politics. Neil has been endorsed by Brookline PAX, along with incumbent Constable candidates Regina Frawley, Deborah Hatzieleftheriadis and Isaac Silberberg. He is the author of the most recent version of the Town By-law defining the election and duties of Brookline Constables.
2. Constables post notices, including the Town Meeting Warrant, election notices and zoning and general bylaw changes, in schools, fire houses, other public places. They serve and execute subpoenas, summonses, civil arrest warrants, and, a difficult duty, an occasional eviction or change in child custody. Attitude, demeanor, and empathy are the most important attributes of a Brookline Constable.

Deborah Hatzieleftheriadis* / 24 Whitney St

1. I am a lifelong Brookline resident. I went to Pierce , and am a Brookline High school graduate, (class of 1980) I raised 5 children here, and am a retired Brookline police Officer. I am proud to be the first African American female police Officer in Brookline
2. As a retired Brookline Police Officer, some of the duties of Constables are the same as what I did as a police Officer. Constables serve civil processes, an example of a civil process is serving an eviction order, divorce modification, anything that is not criminal. I do this with respect and care.

Isaac Silberberg* / 50 Alton Pl. Apt T2

1. Isaac is a proud alumnus of Brookline's Public Schools, and has served as a Constable since 2022. Isaac's professional experience spans the private, government, and non-profit sectors. When not geeking out about Brookline he loves to ski and serves as a member of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of Greater Boston.

2. Constables need to be courteous, professional, and precise in how they conduct the job. You are a major way that government communicates with the public. I've been serving as a Constable for one term, and would be thrilled to continue serving.

♦ TOWN MEETING MEMBERS

Salary: Unpaid.

Duties: As the legislative body of Town government, Town Meeting Members vote on budget and capital items and must consider and vote on any changes in Town Bylaws, including those pertaining to zoning and administrative structure and procedure.

Representative Town Meeting. In 1916 Brookline became the first town in Massachusetts to change from an open town meeting in which any registered voter in attendance can participate in decisions to a representative town meeting in which voters elect Town Meeting Members to represent them in the town's legislative body.

Question 1: Biographical Data.

Question 2: What three issues are most important to your constituents, and how would you address and/or resolve them?

Precinct 1

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Ana Albuquerque* / 24 Euston Street

Attendance: 27 of 30

1. I was born in Lisbon Portugal, and I am the first in my family to finish high school and college. I am an accounting associate professor at Boston University. I have lived in Brookline since 2005, and my two kids attended the Brookline Public schools. I have been a town meeting member for the past 6 years. I was appointed to the Moderator's Short-Term Rental Committee, the Moderator's Committee on Cannabis Policy, and the Auditing Committee. I sponsor the education of economic underprivileged kids in Portugal.

I am endorsed by PAX and Brookline by Design.

2. The most pressing issues for Brookline are affordable housing, zoning and development regulations, and the quality of public education. I support policies that promote affordable housing while avoiding additional tax burdens on Brookline families. Brookline has been considering zoning changes. I

LWV BROOKLINE VOTERS GUIDE – TOWN ELECTION MAY 6, 2025

believe it is essential to have a thoughtful, well-developed plan for evaluating proposed changes—one that balances the need for additional housing with preserving the town’s character, addressing environmental concerns, and incorporating community feedback. Finally, maintaining high-quality public education is a top priority, which includes supporting teachers and ensuring school budgets are transparent and well managed.

Cathleen C. Cavell* / 27 Monmouth Court

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Brookline resident since 1969; served in Town Meeting off & on for 35+ years. With my late husband Stanley, raised two sons & remain on Monmouth Court. Harvard University, B.U. Law School graduate & MAT, Wesleyan U. Lifelong commitment to public service; government lawyer since 1977, including 12 years Associate Town Counsel in Brookline. I am proud of: 36-year advocacy for restoration of the Carlton Street Footbridge & chair of its Friends group; longtime political activist and organizer; consistent supporter of our schools, parks, libraries, more affordable & middle-income housing, expansion of our commercial tax base, safe streets, strong neighborhoods, productive relationships with town officials & services. I am a good listener.

2. As a TMM, I will continue to advocate for these important values:

Preservation of democratic values, constitutional rights & the rule of law: principles Americans believed were inviolate and secure are now threatened by the actions of our federal government. Local leaders & officials must deal with these challenges with courage & determination to protect the vulnerable and preserve what we love about our nation and our town.

Quality of Life: i.e. safe streets; excellent schools, parks, utilities & libraries; reliable trash pickups, recycling & rodent control; parking enforcement; responsive town government & a thriving, welcoming neighborhood.

High cost of living in Brookline: I support spending town funds efficiently and prudently.

Susan Helms Daley* / 17 Chatham Circle

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. no response
2. no response

Bradford Kimball* / 4 Monmouth Street

Attendance: 3 of 3

1. I have been thrilled to serve my neighbors as a Town Meeting Member for the past year and am excited to run for re-election! I have lived in Precinct 1 for 100% of my life — I care tremendously about this neighborhood and want to continue giving back to the community that has given me so much. Over the last four years, I have been heavily involved in our community. I was campaign manager for the successful “No on 1” campaign in 2021. I also was an intern in the State House for two years and worked in the office of Rep. Jake Auchincloss. I am a freshman studying English at Harvard.

Last year, I attended 98% of Town Meeting votes and hope to continue serving as your representative.

Endorsed by: Brookline Pax | Brookline for Everyone

2. My first responsibility on Town Meeting is to represent my precinct. But representing is an active task— it means starting conversations, listening, and thinking deeply — all things that I have done on Town Meeting.

My number one issue is sustainability: fiscal sustainability, environmental sustainability, and housing sustainability. As a student, I am thinking about the long-term future of Brookline. Not just ten years from now, but fifty, when Brookline will be grappling with the decisions that we make today. It is our responsibility to think about the future as we tackle these important issues. I always do my research and work hard. I have been lucky to grow up in Precinct 1, and I will focus on shaping our town in a sustainable way.

Sean M. Lynn-Jones* / 53 Monmouth Street

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Precinct 1 resident since 1995. Town Meeting member since 2011. Retired editor of Harvard academic journal on international relations. Leader in successful effort to improve rodent control. In Precinct 1, I worked to improve pedestrian safety, restore the Carlton Street footbridge with grant funds, and renovate Monmouth Park. Active in Friends of Hall’s Pond. President, Brookline GreenSpace Alliance. Board member, Brookline Neighborhood Alliance. Elected member, Brookline Democratic Town Committee. Former chair, Advisory Committee (Brookline’s Finance Committee). Life member, Brookline Historical Society. Coached for Brookline Soccer Club. Former Lawrence School parent and LEDP board member. Endorsements: Brookline PAX; Brookline by Design.

2. My constituents say they want a more affordable Brookline. The cost of housing, including rent and property taxes, is rising too fast. They want a greener Brookline that protects trees and parks, and fights climate change. They want a Brookline that efficiently and effectively delivers key services, including schools, police, and public works. I will address these issues by, above all, supporting a Comprehensive Plan that includes commercial and residential development that will expand the tax base, generate more revenue, and keep Brookline a vibrant place to live. I will strongly support bylaws and funding to preserve our trees and green spaces, and to fight climate change. I will strive to represent and listen to everyone in Precinct 1.

Taylor Mayberry (new) / 1120 Beacon Street

1. no response
2. no response

David Sipos (new) / 37 Carlton Street

1. I am a 19-year-old student at Boston University. For the next three years, I will live in a college dorm on Carlton Street. In that time, I plan to get more involved in Brookline, joining organizations, serving on Town boards and commissions, and meeting more of my neighbors. After I graduate, I hope to be able to stay in Brookline, but that depends on our ability to address the cost of living here. I enjoy biking through Brookline, to get to my classes and to my favorite spots in town. Before college, I volunteered on presidential campaigns

starting at age 10, worked on two left-wing Congressional campaigns, and worked for a climate-focused nonprofit. | Endorsed by Brookline for Everyone and Brookline Equity Coalition.

2. Housing: The cost of living in Brookline is too high. I know many who question whether they will be able to stay in Brookline due to housing prices. We need to create more affordable housing through the Trust Fund, build more housing around transit, and eliminate broker fees.

Good government: Brookline’s young residents, many in Precinct 1, often look at me in confusion when I reference Town Meeting. I hope to increase awareness of town government among youth, with my candidacy and through post-election outreach.

Climate/environment: Brookline’s green spaces and walkability are very important. To preserve our green spaces and meet our climate targets, I support a strong Climate Action Plan, improved public parks, and better MBTA service

Lawrence R. Sulak, II (new) / 111 Carlton Street

1. no response
2. no response

Precinct 2

Candidates for Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Brenda Hochberg* / 50 Crowninshield Rd

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. My husband and I and our four children moved to Brookline in 2000. Our children all attended Brookline public schools. I am an attorney and practiced tax law for several years before becoming a tax and personal finance software developer. When the kids grew up I had time for volunteer work. I assisted detained immigrants, supported Democratic Congressional candidates, and ran for Town Meeting in 2022. Now in addition to serving in Town Meeting I volunteer with Mothers out Front on their Zero Waste team, working towards single-use plastics reduction in Brookline and at the state level.

2. I think that the issues most important to my constituents are affordable housing, the environment, and wealth inequality. On housing, I have voted in favor of warrant articles that enable more homes to be built in Brookline. I also support mixed-use development that will increase our housing stock. On the environment, I will continue to support warrant articles that help Brookline achieve its net zero emissions goals. I am bringing two warrant articles to Spring Town Meeting that will help the Town reduce single-use plastics. To address wealth inequality, I support our public employees' wage increases and support our robust school system that provides a top-notch education to students of all backgrounds.

LWV BROOKLINE VOTERS GUIDE – TOWN ELECTION MAY 6, 2025

Pamela L. Roberts* / 47 Crowninshield Rd

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I was born and raised in southern Maine. My husband and I have lived in Brookline for 32 years; our three children grew up in the public schools. A former corporate graphic designer and currently an artist, I volunteered in both the Florida Ruffin Ridley School and Brookline High School for over 20 years. I am currently chair of the Brookline Naming Committee; currently chair of the Friends of the Library; and currently chair of a ministerial search committee at our church in Copley Square. Endorsed by Brookline PAX and Brookline by Design.

2. There's a statewide housing crisis. How will we address this? My constituents want to thrive: affordability is paramount, whether it's welcoming new neighbors or being able to age in place. I look forward to the upcoming release of the Comprehensive Plan.

My constituents want clean air, clean water, and safe streets. They want excellent schools! Balancing a town budget that takes care of our public employees is key. The Select Board, School Committee, and Advisory Committee are working hard to present a balanced budget; I look forward to voting for it.

A sizeable portion of my constituents are in public housing. I want to make sure that they are not an afterthought. Open space, free composting, and more are important to all of us.

Barbara C. Scotto* / 26 Crowninshield Road

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Brookline has been my home since 1966 when my husband and I moved here from Maryland. I had been teaching in Baltimore for several years, and when my children started school in Brookline, I went to work in the library at the Driscoll School. I eventually decided to return to teaching and taught at the Baker School for half a year before moving back to Driscoll where I taught until I retired. I have been an active Town Meeting member for many years, and after retiring, I served on the Brookline School Committee for about twelve years. I have been very happy raising a family and working in Brookline for most of my adult life and want to continue to do my part to help this community thrive.

2.

1. Adding to available housing is critically important. I agree that solutions should be the result of comprehensive planning rather than wholesale changes to existing zoning. Comprehensive planning will ensure greater affordability and maintain neighborhood character.

2. I believe Brookline should remain a Town. Residents can participate by running for Town Meeting. TMMs bring a wide range of backgrounds which often lead to unique viewpoints and creative solutions to issues facing the Town.

3. Brookline Schools have excellent teachers and high standards, but struggle with budgets. As school construction projects are now underway, we should shift focus to staffing and programs addressing educational needs of our children.

Maura Toomey* / 102 Crowninshield Road

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. 18 year resident of Brookline. Homeowner.

3 children went through the BPS system.

Incumbent TM member.

Previously worked in sales.

Endorsed by PAX and Brookline by Design.

2. Maintaining a healthy quality of life in the densest part of Town.

Maintaining a positive relationship with our neighbors (residential and commercial)

Listening to all issues from all constituents

Elise Couture-Stone (new) / 105 Browne Street

1. As a local parent, and as a nearly 20-year resident, friend and neighbor, I believe our community should reflect the diversity of the world around us, and that all our children have the resources needed to grow, learn, and succeed. If elected, I'll work to foster open conversations and collaborate with you—our neighbors—to find practical solutions that make Brookline more affordable, vibrant, and sustainable for all of us. I believe that as a community, we can honor and preserve the beauty of our architectural landscape while embracing all the hope and vitality of a prosperous Brookline future.

2. The housing issue in Brookline is key to addressing the challenges we face as a community. Housing is deeply connected to so many important areas, from our Town Budget and education to transportation, DEAI efforts, and environmental sustainability. By focusing on mixed-use development near transit, we can not only meet our housing needs but also increase the Town's revenue, strengthen our local businesses, ease the financial burden on our friends and neighbors, and reinvigorate our education budget for our kiddos. This approach creates an opportunity for a more balanced, sustainable future, where all Brookline residents can thrive in a community that remains viable, engaging, and accessible for all of us.

Esther Gruesz (new) / 125 Browne Street

1. no response

2. no response

Megan Hinman (new) / 157 Babcock Street

1. I've lived in Brookline for over 20 years—first as a renter, now as a homeowner. I'm a single mother of two, with one child at the Ridley School and another who will attend in the fall. I hold a BA in Sociology and an MAT in Visual Arts, and I've spent nearly 20 years teaching, almost all in public schools. I'm deeply committed to Brookline's progressive values, exceptional schools, and vibrant community. My experiences have fueled a strong passion for housing affordability, climate action, and inclusive planning. I believe we can honor Brookline's historic charm while building a diverse, welcoming town where everyone can thrive.

2. I'm running for Town Meeting to support sustainable housing policies that address Brookline's key challenges—

housing, education, and environmental concerns. By promoting energy-efficient, transit-oriented, and mixed-use development, we can reduce carbon emissions, ease the housing crisis, and expand our tax base. With a multi-million dollar school budget gap, we must pursue smart growth strategies that generate new revenue without overburdening residents. Sustainable development near transit can help us maintain excellent public schools, support diversity, and build a more inclusive, thriving community for all.

Kate Poverman (new) / 39 Adams Street

1. no response

2. no response

Lauren Shebairo (new) / 25 Thatcher Street Apt 1A

1. I am an 18-year Brookline resident and solo mom to a 3-year-old daughter. I came to the area to pursue graduate degrees in social work and public health and I specialize in the field of refugee mental health. Over the time I have lived in Brookline, I have seen how increasingly unsustainable it has become for families to live and thrive here.

2. If elected to Town Meeting, I will advocate for policies that promote housing access and affordability, well-resourced public schools, and environmental sustainability.

Precinct 2

Candidates For One Year Term

Vote for Not More Than One

Colleen Newsome (new) / 185 Freeman Street - Apt 450

1. I am a single mother of four children within the public schools of Brookline. I am an active community member and most of my family members and I are all members of the LGBTQIA+ community. I have worked as an Operations Analyst, Insurance Agent, Medical Supply Account Agent and Emergency Dispatcher and as such have a very varied laundry list of life experiences and skills that come in handy in a multitude of ways.

2. The people within my precinct currently struggle the most with the cost of housing and the absolute lack of safe, clean, modern affordable housing. Our town is struggling with a budget crisis and the only solution is to bring in more money. The only way to do that is to secure more funds in planning and building more mixed use and affordable housing developments.

Katy Owen (new) / 21 Crowninshield Road

1. no response

2. no response

Precinct 3

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote For Not More Than Five

Kathryn (Kate) M. Becker* / 83 Stearns Rd #1

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I grew up near Detroit and put down roots in Brookline almost 20 years ago. I have two children currently at Lawrence, a third-grader and a sixth-grader. I work as a science writer, and spent seven years as editorial researcher with the NOVA documentary series. At WGBH I also served as steward and secretary of AEEF-CWA Local 1300
2. Housing affordability: Through thoughtful planning, we can foster development that will make our community more affordable, inclusive, and sustainable while preserving the qualities we value. Town and school budget: To preserve and grow our town and school programs and services, we will need to increase revenue through new commercial and residential development and consider future overrides in combination with tax assistance/deferral for those who need it. Federal volatility: In the face of national policies that challenge our values, we must engage residents in crafting and defending policies that make Brookline safe, welcoming, and equitable for all.

Harry K. Bohrs* / 97 Toxteth Street

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. Married to Anne Turner. Both our children, Katharine and Nathaniel, went through the Brookline Public Schools. I have served as a TMM, member and Chair of the Advisory Committee (AC) [Brookline's standing Finance Committee], The Committee of Town Organization and Structure (CTOS). Former Board Member of the Brookline Community Foundation (BCF), Brookline Greenspace Alliance (BGSA), Community Development Block Grant Committee (CDBG). Member of the Financial Policy Review Committee FPRC), where I advocated for an Affordable Housing Trust. In my professional life I'm At Boston Medical Center, Radiation Oncology/Physics. My aspiration is to be a "ski bum", but reality, good sense, and a back back prevent that.
2. The Town's budget pressure affects everything - taxes, schools, housing, roads, parks, etc. Like every other community in the rea, Brookline has become more expensive. The trick is maintaining Brookline's character, its texture, greenery and walkability; while finding creative ways to increase less expensive housing stock. I have supported the new Brookline Housing Authority Village-Project, expanding opportunities for additional units within existing housing stock; funding and leveraging the Affordable Housing Trust, partnering with developers in creating more affordable units. We must be creative with opportunities for commercial development; and be prepared to address and support our schools in the new financial landscape.

Dennis L. Doughty* / 57 Perry Street

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. 38 year resident of Brookline. MIT graduate. Chair of Advisory Committee. Children attended Brookline Public Schools (Lawrence, BHS). Technology professional. Active participant in several appointed committees. Active in Lawrence School PTO.
2. My Precinct 3 constituents care a great deal about responsible development. I was active in the creation of our Neighborhood Conservation District and remain committed to its principles. My constituents care about the structural budget deficit; my efforts on the Advisory Committee have been largely focused on improving budgetary oversight and analysis. My constituents care a great deal about the budget of the PSB; I advocated for and continue to support the efforts to perform a comprehensive audit of PSB finances.

Frank R. Steinfield* / 160 Aspinwall Avenue

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Brookline resident for 25 years; parent of two Lawrence and BHS graduates. Nonprofit executive and consultant focusing on social services and opportunities for youth. Former roles include Board Chair and Interim Executive Director of the Brookline Community Foundation, Lawrence School Extended Day Board, and the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Board. BA Wesleyan, MBA Yale. Endorsed by PAX and Brookline for Everyone.
2. With a longtime commitment to supporting civil society and progressive policy in Brookline, I want to continue promoting housing access/affordability, reduction of fossil fuel use, and thoughtful economic development policy that will help address the town's structural deficit. These issues are paramount in Precinct 3, particularly where teardowns have been replaced by even more expensive housing with excessive massing and poor design. I support form-based zoning in our precinct to discourage big-box condos and would encourage development of smaller multifamily units to create more affordable (and more energy efficient) housing options.

Leigh Heyman(new) / 74 Perry Street - Unit 1

1. I was born and raised in Newton and have been a BPS parent and Brookline resident since 2017. Before moving back to the area, I spent four years at the White House as a technology director and policy advisor in the Obama Administration. I have spent much of my career helping elect Democratic candidates, and working on progressive social issues most recently focused on supporting first time and first generation home owners, and current work for a startup tackling fair pay.

I am proud to be endorsed by Brookline for Everyone and the Brookline Equity Coalition.

2. 1. Like most BPS parents I have become deeply frustrated by the budget issues eroding the quality of our schools. If elected, I would push for more transparency and oversight in the budgeting process, and seek all means for funding the schools as best we can.

2. It is clear to me Brookline needs more housing across all levels of the market. For that reason I strongly support

increasing multifamily and affordable housing and relaxing height and parking requirements, which artificially suppress inventory.

3. Finally, safe and accessible means of transportation are inextricably linked with education and housing policy. I will work towards Brookline's Vision Zero projects to make our roads safer for cars, cyclists, and pedestrians alike.

Sean Leckey (new) / 95 Longwood Avenue

1. no response
2. no response

Margaret Robotham(new) / 115 Longwood Avenue

1. I'm running for Town Meeting in Precinct 3 to better represent the diversity of our precinct, specifically renters and people under 40. I'm a product strategist in health data and analytics, and my professional experience is focused on vetting investments, building cost-benefit analyses, and getting feedback from my customers and colleagues, skills that I'm excited to bring to local government and solve problems in our community. Proud public school k-12 graduate, alumna of Barnard College, Columbia University, and Master's in Public Health (MPH) grad in health policy and management from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Endorsed by Brookline for Everyone, Brookline Equity Coalition, and Brookline PAX.
2. With all the changes at the national level, now is a critical time to strengthen our local community and address key challenges. It is critical that we meet the pressing needs of our schools and Town services, the rising cost of living in Brookline, and protect the financial health of the Town. To address these challenges, I will support the creation of multi-family housing near transit to address our affordability and climate crises, and generate commercial tax revenue to support our public schools

Precinct 3

Candidate For Two Year Term Vote For Not More Than One

Peter Frumkin(new) / 19 Brook Street

1. Resident of Brookline for 15 years. Former TMM from Pet 4. Documentary Film Maker/Journalist for 40 years
2.
 - Guiding future development in town in a way that maintains the benefits of a great town, and is also fair and equitable.
 - Ensuring that schools are academically excellent and fiscally sound and responsible.
 - Maintaining quality of life in terms of things like great parks, well maintained roads, and excellent tree cover.

Precinct 4

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Wendy S. Machmuller* / 110 Walnut Street

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. no response
2. no response

Donelle S. O'Neal, Sr.* / 68 Village Way

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. no response
2. no response

Vena Priestly* / 68 Village Way

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. no response
2. no response

Precinct 4

Candidate For Two Year Term Vote For Not More Than One

Arslan Ahmad Aziz (new) / 33 Pond Ave

1. I've lived in the Boston area for four years and the past two in Brookline with my wife who has lived in Brookline for four years. I am a newcomer to the town but have quickly come to appreciate its unique qualities and our community. I am analytically minded (by day I work as a software engineer) and I plan to bring a critical eye to town governance. I also have some experience with town governance as I was caucused into the Fall 2024 Town Meeting, and hope to continue serving the town. Outside of Town Meeting, you'll probably find me riding on my bike (for the purposes of commuting, pleasure, and Trader Joe's runs), dining out in Brookline Village, or going for a walk.
2. Three issues in Brookline that are most apparent are housing affordability, financial health, and environmental preservation/protection. On the surface, these goals can seem at odds and that they would require tradeoffs with each other. But I believe housing supply through increased density is a solution for all three, and that there is a path for growth of our community without sacrificing the qualities that we cherish. By strategically increasing density in transit-rich corridors, we can tackle housing affordability through supply-side growth, preserve green spaces, reduce the use of personal vehicles (shifting existing trips from cars to transit), boost the growth of local businesses, and bolster town finances through new development.

Kia Shahbazi (new) / 33 Pond Ave

1. no response
2. no response

Precinct 5

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Perry Grossman* / 42 Jamaica Road

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. no response
2. no response

William E. Reyelt* / 121 Chestnut Street

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. no response
2. no response

Ariel Gruzman (new) / 161 Chestnut Street

1. no response
2. no response

Jessica Maria Milhem (new) / 18 Roberts Street

1. Jessica Maria Milhem, Precinct Five. December 31, 1976, 18 Roberts Street - 02445 jessica_milhem@yahoo.com, Born in Worcester, Massachusetts. I Moved to Boston 2011; my daughter and I moved to Brookline July 2020. Zahara is in 4th Grade at The Lincoln School. We are blessed to be here. Employed at a medical center in Boston since 2011, starting off as a unit coordinator on an ICU. 2013 - outpatient care - current role scheduling administrator in primary care. Lesley University Distance Student, dual degree program bachelor's degree in business with a focus in Wellness, target graduation summer 25. Masters in business administration, target graduation May 26. GPA 4.0. Baptized - Syrian Orthodox. Spiritually - Interbeing.
2. 1. Affordable Housing near public transportation. Review the information that has been provided to the town and do my own research regarding these plans and how others viewed and used these systems paying attention to successful outcomes, challenges, wellness for the parties involved. Brining my thoughts to conversation. As a single mother who made the choice to take my car off the road to pay rent, affordable housing and wellness are close to my heart. 2. Inclusivity: Remaining an open community to ALL who enter. ALL are welcome here. I believe a functioning progressive society all ages, religions, families, humans are welcome. 3. DPW - Climate Change Action, teaching, awareness, working towards a Green Brookline, think global act local.

Paul Richard O'Leary (new) / 16 Jamaica Road

1. I was born and raised in Brookline Mass. I attended Sewell school, Lincoln school and graduated from Brookline High school in 1984.

1)Graduated from University of Massachusetts at Amherst with BAS degree with minor in Sociology 1991

2) Enrolled in University of Massachusetts at Boston and graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BAS in Nursing 1997.

3) I am a former Brookline Police officer and in 2000 I relocated to Miami Florida to pursue a career in healthcare. As a nurse, I worked as a pediatric ICU nurse, Trauma nurse, medical flight nurse.

4) A former firefighter/Paramedic of 13 yrs for Palm Beach County Fire Recue.

5)I returned to Brookline 3 yrs ago to help my family and to raise my daughter whom will be attending Lincoln in the fall.

2. 1)The increasing high tax rate in the town

2) The lack of affordable housing

3)Providing excellent services (school,police,fire,parks ,DPW) for an increasing populous and the costs involved.

As a new town meeting member my responsibilities would be to learn more about the controversial issues. I would attend meetings such as the advisory board , the board of selectman and fellow town meeting members. One of my greatest concerns is the potential lack of federal funding that Brookline will not receive from the government and how it will effect Brooklines budget.

Precinct 6

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote For Not More Than Five

John Bassett* / 26 Searle Avenue

Attendance: 27 of 30

1. I've lived in Brookline Village since 1975, been on Town Meeting and the Pax Board since 1981, and am married to Christina Wolfe. Our 4 kids went to Brookline schools. I'm a retired carpenter and am now playing music and doing glass sculpture.

2. Schools, the health of Brookline Village and development. I will support efforts to get our kids into the new Pierce school ASAP. Press for the bridge over the T to make access to the Old Lincoln School safer. Balance the needs for parking to serve Village businesses with transportation improvements needed for safety for all vehicles and pedestrians. Allow increased density while preserving older buildings when possible. Prioritize affordable housing.

Daniel G. Saltzman* / 62 White Place

Attendance: 27 of 30

1. no response
2. no response

Kim Smith* / 22 Brington Road

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I love Brookline, where I live with my partner, math professor Dan Weiner. I have dedicated of my career to public service. I currently work as a senior analyst at the MA Center for Health Information and Analysis and previously advocated for people with disabilities at a Maryland state agency. I am committed to my community and active in political, professional, and civic groups. I served on Town Meeting's Advisory Committee, chaired its Human Services Subcommittee, and now sit on the Brookline Senior Center Foundation board. Politically, I have campaigned for lots of candidates and causes. I consume way too much news and enjoy the arts, animals, and politics.

2. • Schools: Though I don't have kids, as a product of public schools, I support Brookline schools, including the rebuild of Pierce School, which is under budget so far. I'll continue to support its reopening as planned.

• Budget: Structural deficits persist due to Proposition 2½ limits, now compounded by federal cuts. To sustain services, we must find efficiencies, explore revenue alternatives, and consider overrides. More commercial development is needed.

• Housing: Housing affordability is a major issue. I support: 1) nonprofit housing development; 2) smaller units without bedroom restrictions; 3) converting large homes to multifamily units; 4) mixed use development; and 5) more affordable housing, not payment in lieu.

Virginia A. Smith* / 12 Linden Street

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I became a Town Meeting Member in 2009, representing Brookline Village, and am one of the few LGBTQ TMMs. Grew up in Cambridge, England; a village in the North of England where my parents are from; and the South Side of Chicago. In high school, interned for my Alderman who was reviled by Mayor Richard J. Daley. Earned an MBA at Harvard Business School and worked in book publishing, mostly in NYC. My company was bought by Rupert Murdoch and I was fired when I was 8 months pregnant by a new homophobic boss. In 1997, moved to Brookline and became a writer/editor and mother of three children. Head of Friends of Linden Park for 20 years; Larz Anderson community gardener; worked to prevent a Bio Lab from being built in Brookline Village.

2. 1. Town finances. We need to devise a progressive tax program so that those in the top income brackets pay their fair share in order to support our

working and middle class residents who are struggling to afford to live here.

2. School. Our K-8 school, Pierce, has been demolished and will soon be in the early stages of construction, with our students commuting for the next 3 years. Our magnificent principal is leaving in June--a substantial loss which should not have been allowed to happen. A new top-rate principal needs to be hired ASAP.

3. Affordable housing. We need to develop more housing in Brookline while preserving the best of our historic buildings that help make the Village such an interesting neighborhood in which to live.

Daniel Reuven Fishman (new) / 138 Davis Ave

1. I have lived in Brookline since 2011. I now live on Davis with my wife and two sons (ages 2 and 5) who will attend Pierce. I have been an employment lawyer since graduating BC Law in 2016. Since moving to Brookline, I have been involved in campaigns, causes and organizations to make Town and our world a better place, from Elizabeth Warren for Senate to Tommy Vitolo for State Rep. Board Member of Brookline PAX and the Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (JALSA). Steering Committee, Yes for Brookline (Pro-Pierce override) 2023. My campaign has been endorsed by Brookline PAX and Brookline For Everyone.

2. • Ensuring that the new Pierce building is successfully completed so that it can be a jewel for our community for generations.

• Providing proper Town services to all residents, as new housing developments are being planned and built.

• Maintaining the excellence of our school system.

I will continue to push the Town to complete the Pierce project in a timely manner while also ensuring that the Town does not cut corners in a way that diminishes the final product. I will also advocate that our schools prioritize student-centered services if cuts need to be made to the school budget.

Michael McGraw-Herdeg (new) / 12 Tabor Place

1. I'm a parent in Brookline looking to represent the interests of our kids. I've lived in town since April 2024 and feel so fortunate to be here. My two kids are getting a wonderful education in our schools. I enjoy exploring our vibrant local business scene, meeting and working with our neighbors, and going out to many parks and playgrounds across town.

I work as a software engineer and settled in Brookline after working in big cities (London) and suburbs (Redmond, WA) and going to school just across the river (at MIT in Cambridge). Having seen many different sized municipalities, I'm encouraged that our town often

works very well and am grateful to the staff and volunteers who keep it running.

I'm endorsed by Brookline for Everyone.

2(1) We must keep good, well-run, and well-funded schools. Our kids deserve this, and it's part of why many people choose to live here. Town Meeting has influence because they set the total school budget amount.

Neighbors I talk to are worried about the abrupt national political realignment of 2025 and how we can protect our residents. I think:

(2) Left-leaning places need to assume we're on our own and no federal help is coming. We need a contingency plan for a reduction in federal funding. Town Meeting sets those budget priorities.

(3) Places like Brookline need to show the country they can govern effectively. Town Meeting should pass sensible laws - and not too many - that make it easier for our residents to live here.

Maxim Sheinin (new) / 15 Berkley Court

1. Maxim has been living in Brookline since 2021 with his wife, Anuttama, and two children. His son is a second grader at Pierce school, and his daughter is still in preschool.

Originally from Belarus, Maxim came to the United States for graduate school, earning a PhD in Physics from Cornell University in 2013. After his PhD, Maxim moved to the Boston area, working first in life sciences consulting and then in biotech. He is currently a Senior Director of Strategic Forecasting at Moderna, focused on long-range planning and strategic assessments. Maxim has a track record of community involvement, notably as a member of the Somerville Comprehensive Plan committee in 2017-19, and recently as a member of Brookline Comprehensive planning committee.

2. Housing & Development - Brookline must be welcoming to people across different incomes and backgrounds. I support zoning reforms to incentivize denser, mixed-use housing, streamline permitting, and expand affordability through both market-based and regulatory approaches.

Fiscal Stability - To address budget challenges, we must expand our tax base through strategic residential and commercial development while ensuring new growth doesn't strain town services.

School Quality - To maintain excellence in public education in Brookline, we must adequately fund our schools while ensuring fiscal responsibility.

Precinct 7

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote For Not More Than Five

Susan Cohen* / 23 Littell Rd

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Lifetime Brookline resident, neighborhood activist, Livability Committee member, Town Meeting member, mother, pet owner, part time medical biller and coder, homeowner, endorsed by Brookline PAX and Brookline by Design
2. We need a thoughtful, inclusive plan to address housing growth and shortages. The rising costs of making a home in Brookline--taxes, fees for basic services and the constant overrides for schools--need to be addressed. The focus of our schools should be on the excellent education we became known for, and not on extravagant architectural features. All of these issues need a well-thought-out, long range plan, not a knee jerk reaction.

Susan Granoff* / 52 Vernon Street

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. I've been privileged to be a Town Meeting Member since 2015; an Advisory Committee (Town finance committee) member since 2018; and Chair of the Human Services Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee since 2022. Endorsed by PAX and Brookline by Design. Harvard Law School graduate. Brookline resident over 39 years (Pct 7 over 35), first as young married, then as single mother of two, now as retired attorney who is spending her retirement years working to make Brookline an even better place in which to live, raise children, and age in place. Strong senior advocate: Chair, Moderator's Committee on Elderly Tax Relief; Chair, BrooklineCAN's advocacy committee for seniors (LCAC). Strong supporter of Pierce renovation.
2.
 1. How to keep Brookline housing and property taxes affordable for residents without reducing Town services? New rent stabilization laws in Brookline (similar to rent control laws here 60 years ago), more commercial property development, expanded and new property tax exemptions for homeowners, more BHA housing
 2. How to remain a welcoming community in which diversity of all sorts is respected and protected and no one feels threatened for who they are or what they believe? More outreach to residents to make them aware of their strong legal rights and protections here.
 3. How to help Brookline's growing senior population age in place? Increase the Senior Center/Council on Aging's tiny budget (less than 1/3 of 1% of Town's entire budget).

Colin S. Stokes* / 9 Auburn Pl

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. I've been honored to serve as one of your Town Meeting representatives for the last three years, alongside my wife Jessica. By day I am a non-profit communications consultant, which leaves me flexibility to be involved in Brookline civic life. I serve on the board of Brookline Interactive Group and the host committee for Brookline.News' Brookline Stories Live event at Coolidge Corner Theater. I am also passionate about racial justice: I worked at METCO for four years; I help to organize a multi-racial parent group called CARE (Coalition for Anti-Racism in Education); and my free weekly newsletter BreakthroughBrookline.org lists ways to learn and take action in the Boston area. I welcome neighbors' suggestions, questions, and concerns.
2. Our precinct is wonderfully diverse: homeowners and renters, seniors and students, young families and singles, multi-generational Brookliners and immigrants from all over the world. I try to make decisions that will improve life for those who face the most obstacles. To continue to provide services, though, our town needs more revenue. That's why I support increasing the tax base through commercial and housing development. Zoning changes do affect our precinct directly, since we are located where increased density makes the most sense. But I believe that updated, climate-friendly housing enhances our neighborhood—if it is designed with an eye to street-level life and an aesthetic in harmony with nearby buildings.

Chi Chi Wu* / 14 Marion Terrace

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I'm a 30 year resident of Brookline and parent of a Pierce & BHS alum. I've served for over a decade as the Steering Committee Chair for the Brookline Asian American Family Network, which supports the needs of Asian/Asian American students and their families in the Brookline Public Schools. I'm also on the Commission for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Community Relations, and previously served on the Advisory Committee. I believe strongly in fighting for racial and social justice, especially in the current environment where these values are under attack. My day job is a consumer advocate and lawyer working on economic justice issues
2.
 1. High cost of housing. I'm a strong believer in increasing the amount housing, especially near transit, to moderate home price increases as well as combat climate change. I believe in supporting our renters, especially the nearly half who are cost-burdened. I was a co-sponsor of the by-law establishing an Office of Housing Stability
 2. Schools. So many of us moved to Brookline because of the excellent schools. We must ensure our schools are fully funded and provide a top notch education for ALL students not matter what their background, abilities, or needs.
 3. Supporting our most vulnerable. We must protect our immigrants, low-income residents, the elderly, people of color, LGBTQ+ and others targeted by the Trump Administration

Amanda Zimmerman* / 411 Washington Street

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. Amanda is a neuroscientist and bioengineer working in biotech. She is also coach for a 5th grade all girls lego robotics team, co-steerer of Minyan Shaleym, coach to a Pierce 2nd grade soccer team, member of the Brookline Bicycle Advisory Committee, Board Member of Brookline for Everyone, current P7 Town Meeting Member, and a parent to 3 lovable goofballs (Pierce and TCEE). She is running because she wants to see Town Meeting plan for our future, encourage safe streets for all road users, support strong schools, and fully embrace economic development to broaden our tax base and pay for the services we have come to expect.
2. (1) Housing affordability for low- and moderate-income households; (2) our structural fiscal deficit; and (3) safety and accessibility of our public ways. 1) We need to increase the type and number of homes available, especially near transit, and support funding for subsidized units for our low-income neighbors. 2) Simply, our budget has not kept up with inflation. To maintain services, we need to proactively increase revenue with a combination of regular and transparent overrides, increased commercial and residential development, and other funding streams. 3) In our residential areas, we need to slow cars down and make it safer for users to make more environmentally friendly transportation choices like biking, walking, and taking transit.

Aylit Schultz (new) / 19 Harris Street

1. I am a physician currently practicing at the Veterans Home in Chelsea and the VA. I moved to Brookline to train at BIDMC 20 years ago and stayed because I love this place and the people.

I am extremely grateful to Pierce School and BHS for caring for and educating my 4 children, to all the people who maintain services and safety in Brookline, and to all those who govern it responsibly.

As a Town Meeting Member, it would be my privilege to do what I can to ensure that the maximum number of people from all socioeconomic backgrounds have access to life in Brookline, and to ensure that the Town continues to be able to provide wonderful and high quality of life for its residents.

Brookline resident since 1977. Town meeting member 1993-95, 2006-present. Library Trustee 2005-present. Trial lawyer representing plaintiffs in employment-discrimination and civil rights matters. Condominium owner. Endorsed by Brookline PAX.

2. Housing affordability is a priority, and I will support government incentives and subsidies to help solve the housing shortage while preserving Brookline's unique character. High quality education is critical, and I will prioritize funding teachers and staff who work directly with students.

As a former healthcare entrepreneur, I know the greatest values and ideas can only be realized if the financials make sense; I will address constituent priorities through this lens, making sure budget decisions are data-driven and sustainable. I will ensure

we allocate budget to benefit individuals who need it and to the community as a whole, while taking care not to inadvertently make it even more difficult for people to afford living in Brookline.

Isaac Silberberg (new) / 50 Alton Pl. Apt T2

1. Isaac is a proud alumnus of Brookline’s Public Schools. In Town Meeting, Isaac has been a leader on good governance, sustainability, and education.

Isaac served on the Redistricting and Ranked Choice Voting committees. He helped lead the successful Yes for Brookline 2018 campaign to fund needed Brookline High School and town services improvements. Isaac also advocated for future school construction to be free of fossil fuel systems, ensuring Brookline’s place as an environmental leader.

Isaac’s professional experience spans the private, government, and non-profit sectors. When not geeking out about Brookline he loves to ski and serves as a member of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of Greater Boston.

2. Land use: I support transit-oriented mixed-use development, such as the Harvard Street rezoning.

Sustainability: Environmental and fiscal responsibility is top of mind. I would continue to vote for strong environmental projects, and also look for ways to bolster our tax base, particularly with commercial rezoning and development.

High quality services: make sure that our most important services continue to be funded at a high level, and that we are receiving service quality commensurate with our investments.

Precinct 8

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Tracie Burns* / 100 Beals Street

Attendance: 26 of 30

1. no response
2. no response

Anita Johnson* / 41 Osborne Road

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. Assistant United States Attorney, recently retired. Previously, trial attorney, U.S. Dept. of Justice Office of Consumer Litigation; lawyer at the Environmental Defense Fund and at Ralph Nader's Public Citizen. Peace Corps Volunteer, Tanzania

Precinct 8 Town Meeting Member since 2009. Member, Brookline Open Space Committee and Brookline Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Member, Board of Brookline Greenspace Alliance. Member, Board of WalkMassachusetts.

2. Safety of our streets/sidewalks for all users, with special attention to pedestrians and bicyclists. Increased attention needed to safety of pedestrian crossings (traffic light timings, stop signs, cross paths, etc.); and to automobile violations of red lights, speed limits, etc.

Maintenance of and increase to protection and expansion of our tree cover, for reasons of air purity, noise abeyance, and lowered summer temperature.

Closer attention to our Town budgets, including school expenditures and other Town expenditures, and including Town support of commercial enterprises to provide tax income to the Town and lessen individual property taxes.

Michael W. Toffel* / 25 Abbottsford Road

Attendance: 27 of 30

1. I am a Harvard Business School professor of environmental management and operations management. My sons went through the Brookline school system. I served on Brookline Fiscal Advisory Committee (BFAC) to analyze the town’s financial planning processes and issue recommendations for improvement. I have been a Town Meeting Member since 2021, and have led the passage of several good-government bylaws and resolutions to improve the Town’s fiscal management, transparency, efficiency, and accountability -- and to increase public access to Town deliberations. Education includes PhD @ University of California Berkeley. Master’s of Environmental Management + MBA @ Yale.

2. I am working with Town Meeting, the Select Board, and Town staff to (1) Promote better strategic planning and more economic development so that the Town can afford competitive wages, more neighborhood-scale affordable housing, better-maintained streets/buildings/ libraries/parks, make our streets safer for pedestrians/bicyclists/drivers, and lead to address our climate crisis; (2) Reform zoning to ease the building of mixed-use housing and other economic development to increase the Town’s vitality and tax base, and to do our part to address to the region’s housing crisis; and (3) Make it easier for the public to learn what Town government is doing so they can more easily provide feedback and input.

Yukiko Ueno Egozy (new) / 34 Manchester Road

1. I am a piano teacher and teach private piano lessons in Brookline. I have lived in Brookline for 17 years, and I am a parent of two children: one college-age, and one attending Brookline High School. I was part of the Florida Ruffin Ridley School’s PTO when my children attended the school, and I serve on the board of the Brookline Music School. I have been endorsed by Brookline PAX and Brookline for Everyone.

- 2.1. Housing affordability. Brookline is a great town. Everyone who wants to live here should be able to rent here, buy a house here, and stay here. We can continue to explore ways to encourage more housing production, including affordable housing.

2. Education. My family moved to Brookline for its public schools, and I imagine many residents have done the same. We should maintain the excellence of our schools by finding a way to properly fund our educators and staff and the programs that help our students learn and thrive.

3. Environmental sustainability. We want Brookline to remain a great place for our children’s generation and beyond. We should continue to support measures that protect our environment.

Amitai Handler (new) / 28 Babcock Street

1. no response
2. no response

Avner Ingerman (new) / 209 Fuller Street

1. no response
2. no response

Mary Sievers (new) / 120 Babcock Street, Apt 2

1. I’m a PhD student studying microbiology at Harvard Medical School. I am passionate about science communication, and I currently serve as president of the Science Policy Group at Harvard, where I focus on bridging science and policy.

I grew up in the Boston area, so I’ve always felt at home here. I’ve lived in Precinct 8 as a renter for the past four and a half years, and I’ve come to deeply appreciate Brookline’s unique combination of close-knit neighborhoods and urban accessibility. As a graduate student and renter, I offer a perspective that’s underrepresented in town government, and I’m committed to serving the needs of our diverse community. I am endorsed by Brookline for Everyone, Brookline Equity Coalition, and Brookline by Design.

2. As I see it, the major issues important to my precinct are improving housing affordability, supporting the public schools, and tackling climate change. I will advocate for policies that strengthen Brookline’s public services in order to address these challenges and keep our community diverse and welcoming; our town thrives when people of all backgrounds can live and prosper here. Specifically, I support zoning reform and increased funding for affordable housing, stable school funding, and policies that cut emissions while promoting equity. As a scientist and advocate, I plan to take a thoughtful, evidence-informed approach, and I am committed to listening to and engaging with residents across our community.

Precinct 9

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Harold Simansky* / 99 Winchester Street

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. I was born and grew up in Brookline. Maimonides School, Baker School (1980), BHS (1984). I have three sons. My oldest is BHS 2020, my youngest is at BHS in the RISE program.

I live in the house directly next to the senior center which I built.

2. Unity -- our town has been riled by strife for too long. It is time to come together to address difficult budgetary and development issues.

Robert J. Weintraub* / 112 Columbia Street

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. I've lived in Brookline for over 40 years. My children attended the Driscoll School and graduated from Brookline High. I served as the principal of the Runkle School for one year; assistant head of BHS for three years; and head of BHS for 19 years. I've served Precinct 9 as a Town Meeting Member for six years and as their representative on Town Meeting Member Association. I am on the Board of Brookline PAX. I am the Chair of the National Calculus Project Board. I love public service.

2. 1) The Town and the Public Schools need more revenue, all of which impacts families in P9. I have worked hard on overrides and I co-authored the Voluntary Wealth tax which overwhelmingly passed Town Meeting.

2) Brookline and P9 need more housing and more affordable housing. I have fought for reasonable housing development in P9 and successfully fought for housing that fits our community.

3) I am running for School Committee because of the following concerns about our public schools: fiscal mismanagement, a revolving door of leadership at our schools and in the central office, and what I perceive as a loss of an academic center of gravity. These major issues are about all of Brookline and all about P9.

Anthony Buono (new) / 277 Mason Terrace

1. no response
2. no response

Matthew Caldeira (new) / 97 Centre Street

1. no response
2. no response

Christopher Mutty (new) / 43 Columbia Street

1. no response
2. no response

Precinct 10

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote For Not More Than Five

Rachel Barenbaum* / 46 Griggs Rd

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. Rachel Barenbaum is a writer and podcaster. ATOMIC ANNA is her latest novel. Check This Out is her podcast. She has three children at Brookline High School, has been an escort into Planned Parenthood clinics, graduated from Harvard and HBS, and always chooses her bike over a car.

2. Critical issues in Brookline that are Rachel's priorities include : (1) More and better bike lanes. We have failed to keep pace with national trends in creating bicycle-friendly routes because we haven't made it a priority. It is time to do so as we re-plan, re-pave and re-design our bigger streets. (2) EV infrastructure that brings in more electric cars and cuts down on the combustion engine (3) Building codes that require greener

energy (4) Affordable housing. Brookline is growing and we must make sure we grow responsibly and with an eye towards a greener future and higher density.

John L. Bowman* / 80 Park Street

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I arrived in 1992 with partner and children (Ridley/BHS graduates) to study urban transportation at MIT. Why? I believed in the value of bicycling and walking. Why Brookline? Here we could live car-free near great neighborhood schools.

On Town committees I've championed a more safe, just and sustainable transportation system (Complete Streets Policy, Sustainable Transportation Warrant Article, protected bike lanes). I've spoken publicly for racial and immigration justice.

2. The following aims will guide my actions on all issues: (1) Address climate change (e.g. fossil fuel free housing and transportation); (2) Enhance livable streets and neighborhoods (e.g. protected bike lanes, safe routes to school); (3) Realize racial and economic justice (e.g. close school achievement gap, high-quality affordable housing); (4) Assure fiscal responsibility (e.g. avoid unfunded mandates, support important overrides); (5) Inform, listen and respond to concerns of Precinct 10 residents (e.g. Washington Street rebuild, Pierce School renovation).

Naomi Sweitzer* / 14 Griggs Terrace

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Thank you for the opportunity to represent Precinct 10. Brookline resident since 2005. Town Meeting Member since 2013. Member Griggs Park Neighborhood Association. Past member of Pierce School Site Council, Pierce School FLARE (Families Leading to Advance Racial Equity) & the Kent Street Senior Affordable Housing Committee. Girl Scout troop volunteer. Professionally, I work nationally with VA, HUD, state governments and nonprofits to end homelessness through housing and services. Precinct 10 has several big projects that I will be tracking—Washington Street Complete Streets project and Griggs Park renovation. I enjoy hearing from neighbors—please reach out.

2. We need to address racial and economic disparities through efforts like increasing affordable housing and addressing the opportunity gap in our schools. We've taken steps on climate and sustainability, and must do more including bolstering public transportation, biking and walking options, installing green infrastructure and caring for our tree canopy. Brookline needs more affordable housing so that a wide range of households, including seniors, families and singles can live and thrive here. We need to actively support our local businesses so we can maintain our vibrant commercial areas and assure the commercial tax revenue needed to support our town services, schools and libraries.

Elizabeth Erdman (new) / 10 Hancock Road

1. Thank you for the opportunity to represent Precinct 10! I am a 20-year Brookline resident, with three kids who attended Brookline public schools. I serve on the Tree Planting Committee (Chair), the Urban Forestry Design Committee, the Open Space Plan (2011, 2018, 2025) and formerly Pierce School Council. Professionally, I work as an epidemiologist for MA department of public health focusing on equity and population health. I commute by bike whenever I can.

2. My focus has been on increasing green infrastructure, resources to maintain and grow our tree canopy and greenspaces including parks and recreational spaces. I am also interested in lowering carbon footprints and air pollution supporting electric conversions, solar conversions and green design. We urgently need to build affordable housing so people can settle and stay in Brookline through all stages of life. Our excellent schools drew my family to Brookline. We need to support our business district to grow commercial tax revenue to help fund our schools and community services.

Elizabeth Kernan (new) / 91 Marion Street

1. Brookline renter since 2021. Member of the Brookline Commission for Women since 2024. Harvard data scientist. Dual master's degrees in Sociology and Government. Public transit commuter. Endorsed by Brookline for Everyone.

I am passionate about using data-driven solutions to address local policy challenges. I am running to bring the voices of millennials, renters, and residents from racial minority communities to the table and to help make Brookline a more vibrant, inclusive, and forward-thinking town for everyone.

2. 1. Housing Affordability. Increase low income housing, support tenant protections, and encourage responsible development.

2. Inclusive and Equitable Representation. Support initiatives that ensure more outreach and engagement from racial minority communities, renters, and younger generations.

3. Sustainable and Accessible Transportation. Expand public transit access and improve bike infrastructure.

Precinct 11

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Shira H. Fischer* / 76 Summit Avenue

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. I grew up in Brookline. I work in health policy and care about community, the environment, good education, and improving access for all.

2. Current issues in Brookline are housing, education, and budget, while national issues like the environment, civil rights, and science are also critical.

Shanna Giora-Gorfajn* / 66 Winchester Street

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Brookline resident since 2003; Precinct 11 homeowner since 2005; married with twin graduating 12th grade this spring, including one from BHS. Family law attorney by day (and night); passionate about sustainable agriculture, vibrant public spaces, equitable education, and truly affordable housing at all times. First elected to Town Meeting in 2012.
2. We must adapt our municipal landscape to various transportation and access needs, such as safe bicycle lanes and pedestrian crossings, and create affordable housing and vibrant commercial space that complements existing streetscapes while advancing diversity and equity throughout our town. We must also develop a reasonable, long-term approach to our budget. Proposition 2 ½ imposes artificial and unsustainable financial limits, causing us to lose quality employees and fall behind peer communities. Brookline should and can remain an excellent community with top-notch schools, if we are willing to accept the realities of inflation, competitive compensation, and changing departmental needs.

David M. Pollak* / 112 Lancaster

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. A forty-year resident of Brookline, David has served the community in many capacities over the past three decades. A member of the Building Commission from 2005-2013, he was elected to the School Committee in 2013 and served as chair from 2017-2019. He has been a Town Meeting Member since 2016 and currently chairs the Brookline Advisory Committee's Land Use, Zoning and Sustainability Subcommittee. David has also served on the boards of the Brookline Education Foundation and the Brookline Music School.

David is founding partner of Abacus Architects + Planners, an award-winning firm specializing in affordable and public housing, community and senior centers, and smart growth community planning for Massachusetts cities and towns.

2. Our incredible, resource-rich community needs to remain safe, vibrant and affordable for all of our residents. Careful land use planning is critical, and that is the area where my efforts and expertise are most useful and applied. In addition to chairing the AC Land Use Subcommittee I also serve on the Chestnut Hill Commercial Area Community Advisory Group which ties into the next imperative - supporting Brookline's long-term fiscal health. Growing the commercial tax base is critical, but so is recognizing the structural deficit and working to pass sustainable operating overrides to maintain the excellence of our schools and public services. Meeting Brookline's affordable and workforce housing needs is vital to keeping our community strong.

Lisa F. Shatz* / 252 Summit Avenue

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I am a professor emerita of electrical engineering from Suffolk University and I also spent several years teaching at the Benjamin Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology. While

I did engineering research in understanding how fluid forces affected how inner ear hair bundles and animal whiskers responded to sounds of different frequencies, as well as research in understanding inductances and other effects of magnetism in electrical devices, I also focused on successfully graduating students from underrepresented groups with electrical engineering degrees and obtained funding from the National Science Foundation for that purpose. I am a wife, mother, and grandmother, and have lived in the same house in Brookline for over 35 years.

2. 1. Problem: High property taxes. Solution: More commercial property which would add to tax revenue. Not easy to do, but I believe that a city form of government with a mayor may facilitate commercial growth. To that end, I am on the Town Moderator's Committee that is looking into other forms of government and I am part of an effort to bring the question of a City Charter to the ballot.

2. Problem: Lack of affordable housing. Solution: Building more housing by easing zoning codes.

3. Problem: Antisemitism. Solution: Speaking out against it whenever I encounter it.

Rebecca Mautner (new) / 12 York Terrace

1. Principled and pragmatic, I bring demonstrated experience in advocating for Town to work well for its many residents with diverse strengths and needs. 30+ years experience working to create and sustain affordable housing. Bring expertise in municipal finance, zoning, budgeting, and leveraging state and federal resources to maximize public impact of any local investment. Dedicated volunteer – Girl Scout leader, Driscoll KEEP Club, Temple Beth Zion, worked on numerous progressive campaigns in Georgia and beyond. Served in Town Meeting 2011 – 2024; led initiatives to make Town Meeting participation more feasible for working & volunteer experience with fossil fuel free transition and environmental issues.
2. 1) Budget -- how to balance investments in schools and other important services, such as public health, libraries, services for seniors, road repairs and schools. 2) Ensuring that all residents, including low income folks, can participate actively in Town government and decision making. 3) Creating appropriate forums for emotionally charged conversations of public concern, such as the war in Israel & Gaza, so that the other important work of the schools and Town government can continue.

Andrew Riely(new) / 1514 Beacon Street - Apt 31

1. A native of Newton, I graduated from Newton South in 2001. I attended Macalester College as an undergrad and received my MA in Geography from University of Texas at Austin. After working for the better part of a decade in Washington, DC, I was happy to move to Brookline full-time in 2018. My wife and now our young son have subsequently joined me in our apartment on Beacon Street. I teach US History at Wellesley High School and serve as a trustee on our condo board.
2. One: Town Meeting needs to ensure that the town's finances are stable. Brookline has taken on a number of ambitious project in recent years, particularly the rebuilding of several schools. Consequently, debt has grown

substantially. We need to set priorities more deliberately and be cautious about taking on new spending.

Two - Brookline residents enjoy many wonderful amenities, from town services to open spaces and livability. These attributes are more fragile than they appear. I support policies to conserve, maintain and, when sustainable, expand them.

Three: The high quality of Brookline Public Schools has eroded. We need to explore why. For my own part, I want to make sure that BPS' budget is generous but focuses on the classroom.

Precinct 12

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Petra Gospodnetic Bignami* / 146 Tappan Street

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Public Service: Lead/Co-Lead Petitioner on 3 Gun/Firearm Regulation bylaws (2 passed at TM, Approved by MA Attorney General, 3rd TM May 2025).

Appointed/Served: Brookline Fiscal Advisory Committee (Moderator's Committee).

Elected/Served: Runkle School Council (Community Member).

12.5 Years service Brookline Community Foundation's, Investment Committee 2013-Present.

Professional Experience: 20 Years Consulting for Endowments and Foundations, Specialties in Governance, Planning, Investment, & Team Development.

MA International Law (Fletcher School at Tufts University).

MBA (MIT Sloan School of Management).

Mother of 3, Champion of Neurodiversity, DEI, Belonging. Community Engagement/Hope Heart Project on Tappan Street 2020-Present.

2. The Big Three: Housing, Taxes, Schools/Town Services. Most want lower taxes, few want higher. Some more housing yesterday and at all costs, others more comprehensive urban planning first. Some more school funding, others spending on town services. There is no panacea. It is *critical* that we foster a working consensus when weighing competing priorities and fiscal realities. If re-elected, that's what I will continue to do. With a promise to always listen to what burns most brightly for you, my neighbors, I will cultivate compromise in an increasingly polarized town government (and our society), and I will remain devoted to balanced and thoughtful consideration of every perspective, article, and vote in town meeting. Thank you.

Emily J. Dolbear* / 110 Addington Rd, Unit B

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Town Meeting Member since 2021, with perfect attendance. Parent of two voters (Joseph and Marco, Runkle/BHS graduates). Brookline Education Foundation, Advisory Board (2020–), BEF Board President (2017–20), Runkle PTO cochair (2010–13), Brookline HS PTO class rep (2014–18). Brookline Community Foundation, BHS Scholarship Fund Committee, member (2023–24). Electrify Brookline, Precinct 12 coordinator (2023–). Brookline Library Foundation, Board member (2024–). Graduated from Williams College. Taught English for a year in a high school in southern Poland. Freelance editor and published author of nonfiction books, mostly for young people. (Next book is about World Cup soccer.) Endorsed by PAX, Brookline by Design.

2. (1) Excellent public education for every student. Mission of equity and belonging in our PK–grade 12 schools. (2) Planning for commercial, residential, and recreational growth that includes all stakeholders. (3) Climate action and greener living. I am not a single-issue candidate: I was excited by Fall 2023's MBTA Communities Act Consensus Article, an encouraging example of collaboration. I worked with ElectrifyBrookline.org, a campaign to move beyond fossil fuels. I am most involved supporting our students, teachers, and families. Being part of Town Meeting requires the ability to gather and share information, listen closely, keep an open mind, and ultimately, cast what you believe to be the best vote for Brookline and all who live here.

Amy Hummel* / 226 Clark Road

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Business law and ethics Instructor; J.D.

Town Meeting Appointments: Advisory Committee 2011 – 2023, serving on the Capital Subcommittee, Long Term Planning & Policy Subcommittee and chairing the ad hoc Budget Practices Review subcommittee; Surveillance Technology and Military Type Study Committee; Face Surveillance Ban petitioner; Redistricting Committee, 2010; Open Space Planning Committee, 2018.

Community Involvement: Runkle School Council 2011-2012; PTO co-president 2007-2010 (during the contentious renovation); Runkle Override co-chair 2008.

2. Maintaining excellent schools, preserving open space/climate initiatives, and supporting commercial development/revenue, continue to top my list of priorities; however, I view the Town and our community like a single organism; it has to work for all or eventually, it works for none. That is why housing development is inextricably linked to the priorities listed above. It is my hope that the comprehensive planning process underway is inclusive and instructive. With an open mind, legacy planning in view, and the ability to embrace compromise in Town Meeting, I will continue to balance community goals, quality of life expectations, and a general sense of fairness for all: seniors, families and working professionals.

Mark Lowenstein* / 197 Rawson Road

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I've lived in Brookline for 18 years and have been a Town Meeting member since 2013. I am the author of the book 'Great Runs in Brookline'. I've served on the Bicycle Advisory Committee, and am currently on the Board of Brookline Music School. My two children attended Runkle and BHS. My spouse Jennifer Meader is a lifelong educator and worked at Driscoll School for several years.

Professionally, I've had a career as a telecom consultant, working for larger companies and also running my own firm. I'm also the founder of GreatRuns.com -- the ultimate guide to the best places to run in destinations worldwide.

2. 1) Quality of Schools. The feeling is that the educational 'product' is deteriorating. We need to come up with a multi-year operational solution for the budget. And also think differently about capital allocation.

2) Taxes and Budget Issues. I'm concerned there is 'override fatigue', given inflation and ever-growing costs of items such as housing and childcare. Solution: create more opportunities for commercial revenue, to lower the burden on property taxes.

3) Housing And Affordability. Precinct 12 has a large number of renters who want to buy and live in Brookline. I'm endorsed by Brookline for Everyone and am all for increasing the housing stock while maintaining the character of Brookline's neighborhoods and green spaces.

Yitzhak T. Kornbluth (new)/124 Winthrop Road, Unit 2

1. I am 38 years old. I grew up in Teaneck, NJ. Later in life, I moved to New York City, got a Ph.D in mathematics, got a job as a software engineer, got married, and moved to Brookline to join my wife, who is a native to the Boston area.

2. 1. Housing affordability. I would seek to increase density (so the high land prices of the area could be divided among more people), while considering and mitigating the costs of doing so.

2. School budget. I would attempt to avoid cutting the portion of the budget going to the classroom (about 1/3 of the total), and be very cautious about cutting specialists (about 1/4) especially if it might impact those with special needs, but I suspect we can balance the budget in other areas.

3. Not certain what's third place, but if I had to guess I'd say town governance type. I am open to some changes, but separation of powers is very important to me, and I believe the "town" model provides that better than the "city" model.

Faye Miller (new) / 199 Winthrop Road

1. I moved to Brookline in 2022 from Worcester after switchin jobs and deciding I wanted to be closer to the office. Turns out, I picked the worst apartment in terms of commuting to Cambridge, but a great apartment that allowed me to fall in love with all Brookline has to offer. A graduate of the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Austin, I work as a Medicaid consultant, and have previously conducted research on health policy and sex education, domestically and in the Middle East. Having lived in a variety of cities, towns, and countries over the years, I would be very happy to settle in Brookline permanently. I am running for Town Meeting to bring to life a Brookline that works for all its residents.
2. The three most important issues are the schools, housing affordability, and climate change. We can address issue with school funding and concerns over quality by smartly and sustainably expanding our tax revenue, through increased property taxes from new housing and new commercial real estate. Second, we need to address the affordability crisis in Brookline. Young professionals like myself are increasingly priced out. We need to build more housing options for young people and families, while also finding other ways to manage increasingly challenging rents. Third, we need to encourage more people to use non-motor vehicle forms of transport and enhance our green spaces to help meet the challenges of climate change.

Jonathan T. Phillips (new) / 3 Addington Road

1. I am a Brookline resident of 5 years, and purchased a home here in 2023 with my wife, Liz. I am a green energy professional- I work at one of North America's largest wind developers, Enel, and work on software for enterprise batteries and grid stability. I am a runner, and deeply passionate about human-scale streets; I have taken that passion and experience to serve on Brookline's Pedestrian Advisory Committee. I am also working with the town to install a pollinator garden at the corner of Addington and Winthrop. My wife and I frequent Schick park with our dog, Skyy, and our foster dogs. We hope to raise a family here- part of the draw of Brookline was the wonderful schools and services for residents of all ages.

2. (1) Schools in Brookline are a draw for so many, including myself. I believe it is important to have more parents and parents-to-be represented Town Meeting, because of our stake in our schools and our willingness to invest in an excellent education. (2) Housing- we are pricing far too many people out of our community, and our current developments are not addressing the affordability needs. I believe that we can provide ample housing at affordable prices without sacrificing the look-and-feel of our neighborhoods, through initiatives like form-based zoning. (3) Fiscal sustainability- how can we ensure that our town's robust services are funded, without going to overrides each year? Now is our opportunity to expand our commercial tax base.

Jeremy A Redburn (new) / 308 Clark Road

1. I've lived in Brookline for just a year and a half, but it already feels like home. With my wife Jennie, a long time PSB teacher, we're thrilled to be raising our twins here; both attend Runkell in the 5th grade. In 2012, I co-founded Salsify -- an e-commerce software startup -- and helped grow it into a successful global company employing over 500 people. With the company in great hands, I left early last year to pursue public service and the many passions I'd put on hold to start a company and raise our twin boys. I've spent my time since volunteering with a wide array of local organizations from Elevate Youth to BUILD Boston to the Brookline Food Pantry, and have recently joined the Brookline Pollinator Pathway.
2. The three issues that I hear the most about are: (1) Schools. With schools such a central part of why many were attracted to Brookline, I will work every day towards a better long term planning process to ensure our schools continue to sustain excellence for the next generation. (2) Housing. For a truly vibrant town we need to address the affordability crisis by providing thoughtful housing solutions to meet the needs of renters and owners alike. (3) Fiscal responsibility. I will work to address the current fiscal challenges while still leading on climate, improving our transportation infrastructure, and ensuring that our schools and affordable housing funds have the resources we need to succeed.

Precinct 12

Candidate For One Year Term Vote For Not More Than One

Margaret Molloy (new) / 176 Winthrop Road

1. I am a middle school English teacher with 10+ years of experience in public education; I am passionate about public education, both in our schools and publicly funded institutions, like our libraries. I've lived in Brookline for 11 years. The MBTA Communities Act motivated me to become engaged in local politics, beyond simply voting each year. I moved to Brookline because I love living in a walkable, public transit friendly community, and saw the MBTA Communities Act as a way of bolstering that part of Brookline's character. I was caucused into Town Meeting in the Fall of 2024, and voted consistently in favor of housing abundance. Education: College of the Holy Cross, BA, 2011; Harvard Graduate School of Education, M.Ed., 2015.
2. Top issues: fully funded public schools, housing affordability, and long term climate stability. All three could be addressed, in part, by an abundance of housing in Brookline. School enrollment is down, and we have difficulty sustainably funding our schools year to year. Creating more housing, close to transit, is a way to increase our tax base without raising taxes and increase the supply of housing to decrease demand. Furthermore, denser housing, close to public transit has a significantly lower carbon footprint than carbon intensive suburban sprawl. There are an abundance of small businesses in Brookline that thrive from local patrons who arrive on foot. A denser Brookline is a thriving Brookline, prepared for the a vibrant future.

Precinct 13

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

John Doggett* / 8 Penniman Road

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. I am a Resident of Brookline now for over 45 years, married to Brookline Pediatrician Jenny Lewis with two daughters who attended Heath School. Have been a TMM for P13 since 2012 and on the Advisory Committee for 8 years. My background is in computer technology, telecommunications and finance gained through a career in the financial services industry. I am endorsed by Brookline By Design.

2. Schools FY26 budget gap needs narrowing (currently around \$4m) further by reducing non-student facing line items. Close the gap as much as is reasonably possible, and then see if the Town will assist in providing a larger contribution.

Affordable housing has had some significant number of units added this year, but this still falls short of what is needed. More zoning changes, such as changing some S zones to SC zones which would permit a single family residence to be changed to a two family residence.

1-2 and 3 family residencies have seen large tax increases in the past two years. The town needs to increase commercial property base to help lower the burden on residential units.

Andrew M. Fischer* / 21 Bartlett Crescent

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I am retired from active law practice after 40 years , primarily representing bicyclists, civil rights victims, consumers and other injured parties, I still do some pro bono work. I taught high school English and journalism for 10 years, including 8 years in the Boston public schools.

I have also worked as a newspaper reporter and journalist, both in the Boston area and the Berkshires.

I am currently on the steering committee of the Arava Israel Bike Ride, which supports the Arava Institute of Environmental Studies, serving as co-chair of the Virtual Ride.

I have been a Town Meeting Member for over 20 years, focusing my attention on sustainability and environmental issues

2. The primary issue in the town is sustainability, which takes many forms.

One is economic sustainability. This starts with maintaining schools and services with the town's available revenue,

This impacts a second issue, affordability. How can aging citizens continue to afford to live in Brookline and how can the young afford to buy homes. To address these financial issues, we must address how we grow our housing while preserving the qualities of life we have in Brookline.

This involves the third issue: addressing climate change, the existential sustainability issue. We need to plan housing growth and economic growth until we are carbon neutral but in a way that retains our walkable neighborhoods and strengthens our commercial centers.

Mark Nathan Gerber* / 405 Clinton Road

Attendance: 21 of 21

1. I am a 30 year resident of Brookline with 2 kids currently in the Brookline Public Schools. I graduated from Cornell University's College of Engineering and have an M.B.A. from Boston College. I currently work in commercial banking. It has been an honor to serve as Town Meeting Member for P13 over the past several years.

2. 1) Zoning: We need a thoughtful urban planning process which balances the needs of affordability, sustainability, green space and livability. Save our beautiful neighborhoods from developers. Development needs to serve the needs of the residents of P13. I support the Comprehensive Plan.

2) Energy: The town needs to adopt sensible energy policies. Affordability and reliability for all residents needs to be our priority in town meeting.

3) Youth Recreation Opportunities: The town's youth deserve a year round ice rink to replace the outdated and limited use outdoor rink at Lars Anderson Park.

Francis Charlton Hoy* / 295 Reservoir Road

Attendance: 27 of 30

1. Town Meeting Member (20+ years); Realtor at Coldwell Banker Realty; Past Heath (Hayes) School PTO President; Board of Overseers---BHS 21st Century Fund; Parent of Sarah (BHS '06), Charlton (BHS '09) and Clifton (BHS '12)
2. Our schools must be our top priority. We need to get spending under control while ensuring resources directly benefit students. To achieve this, I support a freeze on non-student-facing positions while keeping cafeteria and custodial staff as school department employees. Tough choices must be made to preserve the excellence of our schools. At the same time, we must fully support our police and fire departments, ensuring they have the resources needed to protect our community. Responsible commercial growth—where appropriate—can expand our tax base and ease the burden on residents. By focusing on these priorities, we can build a stronger, safer, and more financially stable future for our town.

David Brewster (new) / 1760 Beacon Street

1. Born and raised in Raleigh, North Carolina I have been slowly making my way up the eastern seaboard for the past 30 years until i arrived here in Brookline. As an active hiker, biker and skier looking to grow my family, Brookline and the Boston area was the perfect combination of progressive community, easy mobility and proximity to the great outdoors. Whether its looping the Charles prepping for the PMC, Grabbing a bite in the growing food scene or enjoying coffee and a library book in one of the many parks near by, i am invested in seeing this area be the best it can be!

2. School Costs - When talking to voters there are a lot of concerns around school funding and possible impacts on

LWV BROOKLINE VOTERS GUIDE – TOWN ELECTION MAY 6, 2025

the quality education they expect. I aim to make education funding a top priority by increasing the tax base and encouraging learning focused use for the funding

Housing costs - Housing prices have continued to rise while supply has gotten tight. I am aiming to support policies to increase housing supply and lowering renter restrictions to enable new people to join the fantastic community I've become a part of.

Mobility - Brookline is a leader in mobility freedom which integrates well into its surrounding communities but there is more to do to stay in front. I aim to increase safety for all users of our streets and make sure reside

Anne Finkenbinder (new) / 37 Englewood Ave

1. no response
2. no response

Kevin Thomas MacKenzie (new) / 19 Strathmore Road

1. My name is Kevin, I am a teacher in the Public Schools of Brookline, a renter, and a young professional who hopes to remain in Brookline as I advance through my career.

Outside of my work as an educator, I serve on several committees for the Town of Brookline. I am Chair of the Commission for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Community Relations, which promotes belonging, supports programming that celebrates diversity in our community, and weighs in on policies that impact all members of our community. I also serve as a member of the Naming Committee, which makes recommendations on proposals for the names of public facilities.

I am endorsed by Brookline for Everyone and Brookline PAX.

2. The issues I often hear about from my neighbors are: municipal funding, housing, and belonging.

We need to maintain our excellent schools and strong municipal services, but fiscal challenges are threatening this. We need to grow our tax base through thoughtful, comprehensive planning. This would also help us address housing affordability and access by growing our housing supply. Expanding the tax base helps shift the burden away from current taxpayers. This must be done in a way that maximizes transit access and with a climate-conscious approach to protect our environment.

It is important for Town Meeting to take steps to help promote understanding, protect members of our community, and meet the needs of our diverse community.

Jennifer Segel (new) / 425 Clinton Road

1. I returned to my hometown of Brookline in 2014 with my husband and 2 boys (Freshman BHS, 7th grade Hayes) after living elsewhere (Ann Arbor; NYC; Sevilla, Spain) for 20 years. After college, a Masters in Social Work, work experience, and having my kids in Spain, I understand how special this town is and how lucky I am to live here again. Professionally, I work as a philanthropic advisor and consultant, partnering with nonprofit organizations to provide funding that drives positive change. Serving on the Board of the Brookline Community Foundation has given me an

understanding of the vibrant nonprofit landscape here, as well as the leadership and network that sustain it.

2. Schools budget and quality - I know families are concerned about sustainable and excellent public schools. I will vote for smart budgets, expanded tax base, equity, and innovation. Schools are a vital part of Brookline's reputation and need to be a priority.

Cost of Living - I think about the vulnerable people in our community, and how increased cost of living makes Brookline untenable for many families. I hope to understand how we can support older adults, low-income families, and veterans with financial support and wrap-around services (food, utilities, workforce development).

Housing/Development - I will work to pass smart pro-housing articles that encourage increased density along transit lines and help increase the tax base.

Precinct 14

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Carla Wyman Benka* / 26 Circuit Road

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Town Meeting member since 2002: Advisory Committee, Vice-Chair, and Chair, Capital Subcommittee; Brookline Naming Committee: Zoning By-law Review Committee;

Selectboard's "Dangerous Dog" Committee (Article 29);

Planning Board's Strategic Asset Subcommittee;

Park and Recreation Commission's Article 26 Committee;

Comprehensive Plan Planning Process Study Committee; Chestnut Hill Commercial Area Study Committee; Executive Board, Brookline Neighborhood Alliance; former Brookline Preservation Planner; former Heath (Now Hayes) PTO Co-President; parent of Heath (now Hayes) and BHS graduate; former Vice-chair and Grants Committee Chair, Brookline Community Foundation

2. Proposed redesign of Chestnut Hill Avenue, increasing deterioration of roads throughout the precinct/town, cars speeding on neighborhood streets, and children safely crossing Eliot Street to get to Eliot Playground are among constituent concerns. Another concern is the inappropriate size/design of the proposed development at 845 Boylston Street and its impact on abutters and the greater neighborhood. Overarching these two issues are both the responsiveness (or lack thereof) of Town Hall staff to residents' concerns and tepid recognition of the validity of residents' views. I will continue to attend public meetings and public hearings, communicate with Town Hall staff on projects that impact the precinct, and advocate for my constituents.

Richard (Dick) Benka* / 26 Circuit Road

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Current: Expenditures & Revenues Study Committee; Committee on Town Organization & Structure; 36-yr Town Meeting Member. Past: 2-term Select Board; chair Zoning By-Law Committee; chair Efficiency Initiative Committee; chair Moderator's Committee on Zoning-FAR; chair Davis Path Rezoning Committee (enabled Homewood Suites with property/hotel tax revenues; Brookline's first use of "sky plane" providing neighborhood protection); co-chair 2014 Override Study Committee; chair MBTA-Communities Act Multifamily Permitting Committee (enabled State law compliance; rezoned for Brookline Housing Authority redevelopment). Retired attorney. 18-year volunteer math teacher, tutor and track coach at 93% Black/Latinx Boston public charter school.

2. 1. Projected Town and School budget shortfalls.

2. Impact of continuing property tax and fee increases.

3. Perceived decision making by Town staff, committees and boards without adequate neighborhood input, or in the face of neighborhood concerns (e.g., impact of 845 Boylston Street project and impact of proposed Chestnut Hill Avenue redesign on immediate abutters and on neighborhood).

I will continue my focus on fiscal issues as a member of the Expenditures & Revenues Study Committee, with a continued expectation that decisions will be data-driven. I will also continue my focus on zoning issues, seeking to balance neighborhood concerns with other goals in the drafting and review of warrant articles that will come before Town Meeting.

Jesse Hefter* / 653 Chestnut Hill Avenue

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. no response

2. no response

Kathleen M O'Connell* / 59 Ackers Avenue

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I am a 37 year resident of Brookline and a retired Brookline public school teacher. I own a condo in the Hayes School neighborhood and serve as secretary for our neighborhood association. I have been a Town Meeting Member for over 10 years and I am also a member of the Brookline Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

2. Three issues important to my constituents are schools (quality & budget), housing (shortages & development concerns) and maintaining the overall quality of life in Brookline. As to the school system and its budget, I am glad we are performing a comprehensive audit and looking at the possibility of greater town oversight of the budget at least in the short term. In the area of housing, I'm optimistic that once the comprehensive plan is complete, we can make some logical zoning changes to encourage more sensible and affordable housing development. Finally, I'm supportive of efforts to maintain and improve our streets, tree canopy, parks and safety, while continuing to take a lead on mitigating the impacts of climate change on our residents.

Lynda E Roseman* / 49 Ackers Avenue

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. I have lived in Brookline since 1979 and am a retired Driscoll PreK para and Hayes School substitute teacher. My four adult children went to Brookline schools and my oldest is a Brookline educator. I have served on Town Meeting since 2013 and have served on many committees. I was Chair of the first iteration of the Police Commissioners Advisory Committee and currently serve on the Chestnut Hill Commercial Area Study Committee. I am co-founder and co-president of the Settlement Neighborhood Ass'n and Co-chair of the Brookline Neighborhood Alliance.

2. My neighbors are most concerned with preserving our neighborhood character which includes keeping our neighborhood park, Eliot/Warren beautiful and well maintained, (which it is) and being able to afford to stay in Brookline.

Precinct 15

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Eileen Connell Berger* / 112 Wolcott Road

Attendance: 27 of 30

1. I am a long time Brookline homeowner, parent of 2 BPS graduates, a Town Meeting Member P 15 for 17 years, past chair of the Commission for the Disabled(12 years). In 2024 I co-authored and editor of "Crucial Collaborations A Practical Framework to Assure Access, Equity and Inclusion for Students with Disabilities"

Professionally I was K-12 SPED teacher and administrator and 20+yrs in higher education, recently retired from Harvard in Student Affairs and Access and Disability Services. I hold leadership roles in nonprofit boards and organizations, author, consult and present with colleagues and maintain a private disability consultation practice.

2. As a life long educator and parent, I am a strong advocate for renewed emphasis on fiscal responsibility and a commitment to academic excellence for BPS. I support the Comprehensive Plan process that creates a path for growth in Brookline but must include affordable climate action and practices like expanding the urban forest canopy, protecting parks and open space and encouraging the construction of accessible dwelling units for affordable housing. I believe all development projects must consider impact on neighborhoods.

I support sustainable investment in quality municipal services and for fair labor practices, fair housing, and accessibility and belonging for ALL Brookline residents.

Janice S. Kahn* / 63 Craftsland Road

Attendance: 28 of 30

1. A.B., Vassar; Ph.D., Boston University (Applied Sociology). 47+- year resident. TMM P15 – 26 years; Advisory Committee – 18+ years; Former Chair, Brookline Commission for Women; Past-President CHVA, Inc. neighborhood association; Past Co-President, LWV/Brookline; Co-Founder, CHVAlliance, Brookline/Newton association. Received Brookline Neighborhood Alliance 2010 Leadership Award; Co-Recipient of Brookline GreenSpace Alliance 2010 Green Umbrella Award; 2024 Commonwealth Heroine Award. Currently serving on the Chestnut Hill Commercial Area Study Community Advisory Group (CHCAS CAG) and the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee (CPSC).

2. (1) Chestnut Hill Village/Route 9 development. Brookline’s “last frontier” for significant commercial growth needs a thoughtful, community-based process to strengthen the commercial tax base, and ease tax burdens on residential taxpayers and renters being displaced by rising taxes. Serving on the CHCAS CAG. (2) Traffic and Public Safety. After years of community advocacy, installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Hammond Street and Woodland Road in 2025, and a narrowing of Hammond Street should improve safety in this area. (3) Fiscal responsibility - balancing development with services to foster broad community well-being. Encourage town wide conversations to identify needs. Serving on the Comp Plan Steering Committee.

Richard Nangle* / 854 Hammond Street

Attendance: 28 of 30

1. Town Meeting member since 1996

2. We must elect Carlos Ridruejo to the Select Board or face the prospect of continued government by tax override that will push out all but the wealthy from our town. Carlos is the only candidate in the race who will oppose an override to bail out fiscal mismanagement in our schools. He also is the only candidate with a child in the public schools.

Very few communities pass as many tax overrides as Brookline. Our structural budget deficit is built to fail every three years. We face the largest override in town history next year. We must defeat that ballot question,

Also, the Washington Street redesign is a disaster for local businesses and should be scrapped.

Wadner Oge* / 147 Newton Street

Attendance: 28 of 30

1. I am an attorney and incumbent Town Meeting Member of Precinct 15 in Brookline, MA, also serving on the Brookline Zoning Board of Appeals. Originally from Haiti, he immigrated to Boston at 16, excelling academically and earning degrees from Northeastern University and Vermont Law School. Admitted to multiple legal jurisdictions, I have worked in various legal capacities for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, handling bar admissions, criminal justice regulations, professional licensure cases, and other legal matters.

2. As a Town Meeting Member in Brookline, MA, three key issues likely important to constituents include affordable housing, public transportation and infrastructure, and community engagement and equity. First, Brookline faces rising housing costs, making it difficult for families, seniors, and young professionals to remain in the community. To address this, I would support policies that promote mixed-income housing developments, strengthen inclusionary zoning laws, and advocate for increased state and local funding for affordable housing programs. Additionally, I would push for responsible development that balances growth with affordability while preserving the character of each neighborhood in Brookline. Second, reliable public transportation

Hugh Joseph(new) / 676 Hammond Street

1. no response
2. no response

Precinct 15

Candidate For One Year Term Vote for Not More Than One

Rory Hallowell (new) / 96 Sears Road

1. I was born and raised in Brookline and I have served as TMM for half a year. I am also an appointed member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. I played on both soccer and hockey teams while also enjoying nature programs in various parks. I am a graduate of Colby College in Maine and I am presently a graduate student at The Fletcher School for Diplomacy.

2. 1. I am very concerned about Brookline's open spaces and parks. Preservation and programming are key. I want to ensure that kids continue playing, laughing, coming home dirty and importantly, learning in the great outdoors.
2. I am also concerned about the beautiful trees that were planted generations ago, and are now being clear cut by developers who don't care about the trees themselves, or the shade they provide. More trees, more owls, less rodents, more shade.
3. I am concerned about affordable housing in Brookline. I do not think that eliminating zoning practices like Cambridge is the solution. We need to build smart buildings.

Precinct 16

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Laura Kathryn Baines-Walsh* / 59 Woodcliff Road

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. I have lived in Brookline with my husband and two children since 2014. Both of my kids attend public school and are active in Brookline sports. I hold a Ph.D. in history from Boston College and currently teach high school history and AP U.S. Government. As an educator, I am passionate about civic engagement and fostering informed, active participation in our democracy. I believe in a responsible, transparent, and efficient local government that thoughtfully balances community needs. I am committed to advocating for strong public schools, responsible development, and a vibrant, inclusive Brookline.
2. Housing affordability is a major concern. We must develop a comprehensive plan to ensure new housing meets the needs of our community—not just luxury units but diverse, accessible options. Fully funding our schools is also critical. Expanding our commercial tax base can provide additional revenue to support education without overburdening residents. Lastly, we must protect and enhance our open and recreational spaces, ensuring all residents have access to parks and outdoor activities. Thoughtful planning and community engagement will help us balance these priorities and sustain Brookline's quality of life.

Adrienne S. Bowman* / 416 VFW Parkway

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. I was born and raised in Brookline (Baker and BHS alum), and got my bachelor's from Columbia University. After college, I began teaching in the Bronx for 4 years before moving back to the Boston area. I am an 8th grade math teacher in the Boston Public Schools (Ohrenberger). I have lived in precinct 16 for 15 years now, and have two kids in the Brookline Public Schools (rising 6th grade and rising 9th). I am proud to have been a Town Meeting Member since 2016.
2. 1. Quality public schools: The current state (specifically regarding the deficit) is concerning. I will stay involved, and in communication with the School Committee, advocate when/where necessary, and support those who have our public school children's best interests at heart.
2. Keeping large development owners accountable: In Pct 16, we have seen first hand how certain

developers are allowed liberties that far surpass what is appropriate. Bringing constituents' concerns to the relevant bodies is an important facet to being a Pct 16 TMM, especially since renters are often afraid to be the public face against their landlords.

3. Hyper-local concerns: It can be daunting to try to navigate town politics, but I can be an easy/friendly go-to.

Stephen Chiumenti* / 262 Russett Road

Attendance: 27 of 30

1. Attorney, retired. Brookline resident since 1985. Two children who graduated from Brookline schools - Baker and High School. Grandchildren currently in Brookline schools.
2. Meeting essential Town services with respect for limitations of real estate taxes - which is part of making/keeping Brookline affordable. Retaining testing in schools as measure of the performance of the schools. Keeping Town Meeting focused on essential Town issues rather than matters beyond the reach of Town government.

Joslin Murphy* / 62 Baker Circle

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Former Town Counsel, Interim Police Chief, Assistant Attorney General, Assistant District Attorney, Police Officer. BA Government; JD
2. Quality of Life, Taxes, Traffic, Access to Town Programs and Amenities.

Carolyn R. Thall* / 66 Beverly Road

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. I've lived in South Brookline for 15 years with my husband and two children, both of whom have been in Brookline public schools since Kindergarten (now in 10th grade and college). In terms of public service, I've been a Town Meeting member, an Advisory Committee member, and am on the School Committee.
2. Zoning - always attempting to balance the needs for accommodating owner needs, regional/local housing needs, and preservation of the neighborhood character and environment.

Climate - we need to protect our tree canopy through better enforcement of tree preservation bylaw (also related to neighborhood protection, above).

Roadway safety – with more cars on the road than ever in South Brookline, we need to work with the Transportation Board and staff on traffic calming and enforcement.

Carlos M. Tamayo (new) / 201 Sherman Rd

1. At 27, I'm proud to run for Town Meeting in Precinct 16. I am an educator, housing rights activist and former Town Meeting Member. I represented Precinct 2 with pride from 2022 until 2024, when I moved out of the Brookline Housing Authority after spending nearly half of my life there. As a first-generation American and Boston College graduate, I've had to work hard to get to where I am--but I couldn't have done it without the support of my community. My passion for justice comes not just from lived experience, but from the moral compass I gained thanks to my Jesuit education and the kindness extended to me by the Brookline community. In the past, I also served on the CDICR and have been involved with GBIO. I hope to count on your support!

2. My constituents are concerned about how Brookline will approach the housing crisis moving forward and how renters and homeowners can collaborate as we seek comprehensive and tangible solutions that make sense for the physical characteristics and demographics of Precinct 16. They're also concerned about the Town's response to equity and human rights issues on a local and global scale, especially with the recent elimination of the Office of Educational Equity here in Brookline and what this means for vulnerable students in light of the latest dismantling of protections by the Trump administration. When speaking to residents, many said that more transparency is needed overall, which is why I am running for Town Meeting in Precinct 16.

Precinct 17

Candidates For Three Year Term Vote for Not More Than Five

Jacqueline Baum* / 194 Saint Paul Street, 1

Attendance: 26 of 30

1. My family and I moved to Brookline over 20 years ago. My daughter and son both attended FRR and BHS. I am a past FRR PTO co-president. I have been a co-owner of 2 Boston area food businesses, Cooking Culture Caterers and Trillfoods. I have been a Town Meeting Member for the last five years.
2. Brookline is faced with challenges in terms of its growth and accompanying development. Expanding both our commercial and residential footprints needs to proceed with mindful planning so as not to overwhelm any given neighborhood. The Town also appears to be at a crossroads in terms of how it will confront issues of social justice in, for example, housing, and I would like to be a voice in shaping that outcome.

LWV BROOKLINE VOTERS GUIDE – TOWN ELECTION MAY 6, 2025

Jonathan H. Davis* / 125 Park Street

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. 44 year resident of what is now Precinct 17. Candidate for reelection. Married with kids and grandkids. Lawyer in private practice.
2. The issues are often when developers interfere with livability. Examples - Hotel that asked for a town license to pipe music until 11 PM into its front yard, opposite residents' apartments. Also - Overtime street parking by construction workers, ignoring parking signs that everyone is supposed to follow, taking up parking space for residents' guests, repair persons, etc. Also - In the Summer a developer without notice began demolishing buildings with asbestos across the street from the open windows (Summertime) of residents' apartments. Also - unnecessarily and excessively loud outdoor concerts that drive residents out of their own homes to escape the noise. I've lobbied town officials on behalf of residents in favor of livability.

Bruce Levin* / 20 Webster St

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. A resident of Coolidge Corner for 3 decades, I live with my wife, Lek, my son, Harry, (a student at BHS), and our spirited Yorkie, Percy. We love living in Coolidge Corner. We patronize local businesses, play at Amory and Griggs parks, use public transportation and are kind to others.

In my three years as a Town Meeting member, I have supported efforts to improve local services, support the senior community, combat climate change, and ensure that the Town is fiscally responsible. I have also co-sponsored several warrant articles, including one designed to help fight sex trafficking at local hotels. I am proud to have assisted several Precinct 17 residents in resolving local problems.

2. The important issues are:

- 1) Maintaining the quality of the Brookline Public Schools;
- 2) Supporting local businesses; and
- 3) Addressing the rising cost of living in Brookline by urging the Town to spend responsibly and to raise additional revenue from residents only as a last resort.

A key task will be guiding the Town to act with fiscal responsibility by providing the high level of services Brookline residents expect without putting undue financial stress on taxpayers. I value the programs supporting senior citizens and other vulnerable residents and believe the Town should be responsive to those communities.

Brookline is a diverse community. There should be no tolerance for racism, anti-Semitism, homophobia and bigotry of any sort.

Susan Kay Park* / 27 James Street - #5

Attendance: 29 of 30

1. Susan Park is running for reelection for the precinct 17 Town Meeting Member seat. She was the top vote getter three years ago because she has a proven track record to get things done for her constituents. Most recently during the tremendous demolition at the Waldo- Durgin site, the dust and debris affected her constituents. Susan showed up at the Select Board meeting to advocate for her constituents. The matter was resolved quickly. Susan has been on many Brookline boards and committees to make Brookline a healthier, safer, and better town. She was the Brookline Town Meeting Member Association Vice President and sat on the town's finance committee (AC), was on the Brookline wellness committee, and always works hard solving problems.

2. 1) The initial 8 million dollar school deficit is a big concern because in order to close the gap, there are going to be cuts. The cuts will affect students and teachers. I am glad there is an audit being done to see where money is being wasted. Susan also has ideas of revenue sources for the town re: the Chestnut Hill West parcel of land.

- 2) Affordability- many people are concerned about the rising house costs and tax if there is another override down the road. As a Town Meeting Member it's important to continue conversations about affordability re: zoning and identifying waste.

- 3) Mental health is the "hidden problem" that people don't like to discuss. I sat on the wellness committee to address this. Will continue to work hard for you.

Linda Olson Pehlke* / 48 Browne Street #2

Attendance: 30 of 30

1. Linda has lived in Brookline for 37 years. She's lived in Precinct 17, Coolidge Corner (formerly Precinct 2) for 22 of those years. Arriving as a young professional with her husband Robert, they soon put down roots near Washington St. As her appreciation for Brookline grew she wrote a series of historic "places" articles for Our Town Brookline and authored Exploring the Paths of Brookline. With her professional experience in Urban Planning, she has volunteered her expertise on numerous Town Boards and Committee's, most recently as a member of the Town's Advisory Committee, on the Land-Use Zoning and Sustainability Sub-Committee and as Vice-Chair of the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. She founded Friends of the Minot Rose Garden.

2. Maintaining the quality of life in Brookline is something I hear a lot about from my constituents. These concerns range from crowding to rats to poorly maintained roads, to park upkeep. My constituents want to see Brookline maintained well and with top quality services. This requires a municipal staff that is empowered to fulfill their public mandate by being supported by adequate wages, a fulfilling work environment and sufficient staffing. All that requires a sufficient tax base and clear direction from Town administration. This requires fiscal discipline and a focus on core services. We must avoid passing laws and making rules that stretch us too thin in terms of having the necessary staff and/or resources for enforcement or followup.

Christopher Joseph Chaky (new) / 46 Browne Street

1. I'm an avid reader, public transit enthusiast, and frequent biker. I love Brookline for its many parks and vibrant small businesses, along with walkable neighborhoods and a strong sense of community. Having moved to the Boston area in 2015 to pursue a PhD in Government at Harvard, and now serving as an Associate Director of Analytics at HBR, I aim to bring my experience in public policy and data-driven decision making to Brookline Town Meeting. My goal is to pursue progressive solutions to Brookline's challenges in affordable housing, school funding, and sustainability.

2. Brookline is facing three important challenges: housing affordability, school funding, and sustainability. To tackle these, I support progressive policies that encourage smart, transit-oriented growth. We can build more housing, support commercial development, fund affordable housing, and build safer streets for people and bikes, all in dense communities near transit. Supporting these kinds of growth opportunities can allow more families to stay in Brookline, broaden the tax base to bring in more revenue for schools and streets, avoid possible property tax increases, and promote sustainable commutes. Through this data-driven, progressive approach, I believe we can build a greener, more affordable Brookline with fully-funded schools.

Elizabeth Anne Hudson (new) / 228 Saint Paul Street

1. I moved to Brookline over 10 years ago when I started law school at Boston University. I've lived near Cleveland Circle, in Washington Square, and, after a brief stint in Boston, here in Coolidge Corner. I grew up near Austin, Texas and got my undergraduate degree in Biomedical Engineering from Purdue University. I've been an attorney for 7 years and have moved from practicing intellectual property litigation to technology transactions at a non-profit research institution. I'm proud to call Coolidge Corner my home and I look forward to the opportunity to serve Precinct 17 as Town Meeting Member.

2. Brookline is currently facing an acute housing crisis, a budget deficit including an \$8 million gap in the Public Schools of Brookline budget, and Brookline's infrastructure inadequately protects pedestrians and cyclists. As town meeting member, I will address Brookline's housing shortage by voting to create more housing at all income levels, but especially affordable housing. I will work to protect needed town services and school programs by voting for measures designed to expand the town's tax base and increase revenue. I will prioritize safe streets and sidewalks for all users by voting for bike paths and traffic calming measures at busy intersections.

Thai Johnson (new) / 17 Green Street

1. My name is Thai Johnson and I am a 29 year old man living in Brookline. I am originally from Marietta, GA and have been living in Brookline since 2021 when I moved here to pursue a Masters degree in music. I have fallen in love with the area and recently decided to officially put down roots here. As such, I want get involved and help connect with the community and serve it as best I possibly can. Outside of my passion for local politics, I am a freelance musician who believes in the power and beauty of the arts.
2. When I speak with people and read comments online, I find most folks are worried about affordable housing and the education budget. I also believe citizens want to feel as though their community leaders listen and care about them. To

address affordable housing, we need to increase the supply of housing through policy initiatives which fall in line with current MA laws, such as the MBTA Communities Act. Increasing the supply of homes allows new and existing citizens to find homes which best suit their needs. This influx of new homes and residents will also raise property tax revenue which will bolster the education budget. Addressing these issues will cultivate goodwill amongst the residents of Brookline and establish faith in their leaders.

Michael P Vaughan (new) / 182 Saint Paul Street

1. no response
2. no response

Precinct 17

Candidate For Two Year Term

Vote For Not More Than One

Benjamin Dubin (new) / 50 Longwood Avenue

1. I have been a resident of Brookline for 20 years, and I love living here. My wife and I have a daughter who is now at Brookline High School and has been in the Brookline School system since kindergarten. I want Brookline to remain a vibrant community that can sustain itself economically. I want to be a Town Meeting Member to help guide the future of Brookline and specifically the precinct I will represent.

I appreciate being endorsed by Brookline for Everyone, Brookline Equity Coalition, Brookline PAX, and Brookline by Design.

2. (1) Housing - The town should work to increase its housing opportunities on all levels of affordability in both large and small ways.

(2) Economic Development - The town should strive to find more opportunities to increase its economic base by creating policies to encourage businesses to come to and stay in Brookline.

(3) Schools - Brookline has great schools, but the system continues to run into budget shortfalls. There needs to be a hard look at whether funds are being properly and efficiently spent, while ensuring they provide excellence to their students and community.

The Brookline Town Election will be held

Tuesday

May 6, 2025

Precinct 17

Candidates For One Year Term

Vote For Not More Than Two

Rhea Paul (new) / 28 James Street

1. I went to college and lived in the Boston area for ten years after graduation. When I retired from full-time work, I moved back to the part of the world that most felt like home. I've been in Brookline since 2021, and have loved the wonderful combination of urban and small town feeling of living in Coolidge Corner. However, the exorbitant cost of living in Brookline has been on my mind since coming back here. I became involved in working toward passage of the MTA Communities Act plan for Brookline, and came to feel strongly that I wanted to be part of working toward broadening opportunities for a broader range of people to enjoy Brookline's quality of living. Running for Town Meeting seems to be one way to influence Brookline's future.

2.1. Affordable housing: Working toward modifying zoning regulations to expand opportunities for multifamily housing at all economic levels.

2. Supporting our schools: Brookline schools are known for their excellence and they add value to to town. But schools are suffering from insufficient funding to maintain this excellence. We need to think about enabling new development that provides added revenue to the tax base, as nearby towns such as Newton are doing.

3. Sustainability: We need to enhance our "green" infrastructure for new construction. Brookline has begun this process, but we need to provide incentives to developers to increase the level of "green" components, such as heat pumps and solar capacity.

Joseph Valencia (new) / 56 Pleasant Street

1. I am 27 years old and moved to Brookline last year, when my partner and I were drawn to Greater Boston as an ideal place to pursue our careers in medicine and biotechnology, respectively. I am about to start an industry position as a researcher helping to design vaccines, after recently graduating with a PhD in computer science from Oregon State University.
2. I am running for Town Meeting because I believe that affordable housing is a prerequisite for economic stability and mobility. I see where I live in Coolidge Corner as a model neighborhood and hope to support policies which increase the supply of affordable housing near transit and urban amenities. I also believe strongly in environmental sustainability and will support measures to help decarbonize our local economy. Finally, I will advocate for policies that help young workers and families with children so that Brookline can become a more welcoming place for people at all stages of life.

Check your voter registration status and make any needed changes at:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us>

