



**Candidate Name:** Deirdre Pierotti

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**Bio/Background:** I am a devoted fan of the North Shore having grown up in Topsfield enjoying all that this area has to offer. I moved to Wenham 12 years ago with my husband and two daughters. My professional background includes 25 years of leadership and management experience in university settings in the field of global health. I am experienced in strategic planning, policy and procedure development, human resource management, financial management and budgets, grants and contracts, communications, and management of complex international programs. I earned an MA from the BU Center for Energy & Environmental Studies, a graduate Certificate in Public Health from Harvard Extension School, and a BA in Political Science from UMASS Amherst.

**1) As the Board transitions to 5 members how will you work to build collaboration?**

The majority of my career has been spent working in groups building consensus and collaboration in order to achieve complex goals. I will bring these experiences to bear in building working relationships that underlie successful collaboration, not only within the Select Board, but across Town government, and throughout our town.

I also had the pleasure of being part of the Wenham Town Government Study Committee where we examined the question of expanding the Select Board. Through this work, I became convinced of the importance of this change for Wenham. I had the chance to study others' thoughts and experiences on the shift to 5. I have closely watched Select Board meetings, followed the issues, and listened to what is important to the current Board. I am well prepared to join the conversation and contribute thoughts and ideas to move Wenham forward.

**2) As the Master Plan is being developed, what is one thing you hope to see from the process?**

As Vice-Chair of the Master Plan Advisory Committee, I am fully immersed in the process of constructing the plan. It has been a wonderful experience hearing the insight and ideas of the committee and the many residents who have participated to date. One thing I hope to see from the process is continued public interest and engagement in town government. I have been impressed and inspired by the wealth of creative ideas and the care and concern that people have shown in planning for our collective future. I hope that this creative spirit and collaborative thinking carries through the remainder of the planning process, and on into the implementation of the plan over the next 10 years.

**3) How do you plan on creating a sustainable town to reduce the carbon footprint of residents, businesses, schools and the town as a whole?**

Creating a sustainable town is not a one-person job, it will indeed take a village to fight climate change and build climate resilience. But significant change is attainable and the time for action is now. Wenham is very fortunate to have the [Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team \(HWCAT\)](#) hard at work on these issues already. I became a member of the team this past year and have been consistently impressed at how effective and hard-working this group is. If elected, I will immediately work to create an official Wenham climate action committee in order to solidly embed this work in town government and create the platform from which to pursue grant funding, launch climate initiatives, and engage in public education.

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