

**Hi! I am Karin Ernst, candidate for re-election. I would appreciate your vote for Rec & Parks Commission on June 11th.**



I have been fortunate enough to be on the Recreation & Parks Commission for the last three years. Our job is to set policy and do our best to listen, understand and balance the needs of the individual and the needs of the Town. Since Shelly and Rossana most recently joined the Commission, we are more focused on data as opposed to only historical knowledge, to create policies.

This past year has been a busy one for the Commission! Here are some highlights:

#### Raquet Sports

Pickleball courts are in high demand given the popularity of the sport. A policy needed to be created to address all the various factors involved. We effectively listened to all members of the community involved- pickleball and tennis players, neighbors, etc. We set up policies for court maintenance and evening play utilizing the lights at Seaside. Most recently, we are discussing some type of open play option, while considering the neighboring homes and player's needs for reservations.

#### Beach and Permit Fees

We reviewed the current fees to use our parks and beaches. These fees have not been looked at for some time. Shelly took the lead researching how our fees compared to other communities. We determined that raising fees for non-residents (beach and permits) was warranted and reasonable. Finally, with the help of the Rec and Parks department heads, the town is moving toward accepting credit cards for beach parking.

#### Stramski House

Next on our list of priorities is finishing the Stramski House renovations and its future use. Next steps will be to determine if the direction of the past Commissions support the best use of this project based on today's community needs.

#### The Larz Anderson Trust

Shelly and Matt are working to update the project estimates. The Recreation and Parks Commission, along with the Select Board, will decide the direction best suited for the community. We have fresh eyes on this project which will offer a fresh perspective.

#### Fountain Park Steps

The Fountain Park Steps are in disrepair and require replacement. Rossana is working with the Department on the next steps. Hint, Hint, if you would like to memorialize or honor a loved one, we may be one "STEP" closer to a solution 😊.

#### Department and Commission Policy Manual

The Department heads and Rossana are gathering information to propose for deliberation, a Department and Commission Manual. This manual is important for both the Department and will certainly help when new Commissioners are in place. It will set the tone for the roles and responsibilities of both Commissioners and the Departments and set the stage for Standard of Operating Procedures. It will encompass objectives, focus areas, organizational communication, and a decision-making matrix.



I am so happy to be able to support Jaime Bloch, Peter James, and their departments and together we support the Marblehead community. I would like to ask you to vote for me, **Karin Ernst for the Recreation & Parks Commission.** Please and thank you very much.