

Kristin duBay Horton

For Marblehead Housing Commission

MY BACKGROUND: I'm from Bristol, CT, originally. My Dad was part of the Greatest Generation and served in the Navy during World War II(nice to live now - where the US Navy began!). I am the youngest of five siblings and was adopted in 1970. My Mom was CEO of a Credit Union. I worked there summers and vacations through high school and college doing jobs no one else wanted(for example putting cashed checks in numerical order). My mom taught me that hard work absolutely had to be part of your life everyday.

I graduated from Phillips Academy (Andover) where I fell in love with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I met my husband at Yale where I graduated in 1991. Carl and I returned to Boston for graduate school when he got his MBA at Harvard and I got my MPH at Boston University and served as student graduation speaker. This honor was extended by faculty - I've always been a good student and student leader. During that time the two of us lived in every graduate student neighborhood: South End, Allston, and finally Jamaica Plain. Carl and I married on my parents front lawn on Cape Cod in 1998.

I am a product of love and diversity. I am a mixed raced woman adopted by Caucasian parents. I refer to becoming a duBay - as "winning the lottery" - and it's absolutely true. I was raised in a supportive, loving home - that I try to replicate for my own kids. I've been married to my husband Carl for more than 25 years. I have three children. My youngest child Charlotte, graduates from Marblehead High School this month and is off to Pace University in the Fall. We have two dogs - Blue, a labradoodle, and Bucket, an Australian shepherd mix who was a covid rescue. Bucket was abused before he came to us. Covid had the family in isolation so he was never really socialized. Our boy Bucket is made up of fear, bark, and hair(that sheds). I am also a caregiver to my older sister Keryl, who recently moved in with us. She's been like a second Mom to me my entire life and now she needs my support. I'm fiercely loyal and a natural caregiver.

MY VISION: I believe that safe, secure housing is a human right.

- **MY MOTIVATION FOR RUNNING:** My father always taught me to be a good World Citizen. I saw him do that when he picked up trash on walks, when we took in a Vietnamese family immigrating to the US, when he lobbied for WIC legislation (US program that feeds poor mothers and their children up to age 5). Being a good world citizen is about running for housing commission right now. I know both my parents are looking down and smiling at my first ever campaign.

MY GOALS FOR BEING A MEMBER OF THE HOUSING COMMISSION: I know how to give voice to the voiceless - and to allow people with lived experience to lead. I'm an advocate for

people - particularly for those who aren't often listened to. A few examples of my work in this area include:

- Counseling sexual assault survivors and training new volunteers to become counselors
- Trained and supported people living with HIV for the Mass Dept of Public Health to fully engage them in HIV prevention planning efforts.
- Helped build evaluation strategies for community non-profits in San Francisco serving people living on the streets
- Seeking input from small landlords dealing with rising lead paint abatement costs and difficulty addressing rising taxes and falling section 8 reimbursement.
- Responsible for the health and well-being of 160,000 residents in CT's poorest, largest city as Health Director. Created commissions and other feedback loops that brought residents into our planning and work.
- I helped students come together to collect data from their peers, analyze the results, and brainstorm priorities after a suicide cluster in our community. The results were presented to the school board in Lakeway Texas, by the students, and 9 of 10 requests were adopted within two years.

I met with the Housing Commission Tenant Association in April. I believe that we can do better for them and be more inclusive. My experience, ensuring that meetings running on Roberts' Rules of Order still empower all the voices in the room. This will help the Housing Commission. I believe our fair town will feel as welcoming to public housing residents as it did to my family when we moved here from the suburbs of Austin Texas.