

# Tom McMahon

## BOARD OF HEALTH

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### HONESTY AND TRANSPARENCY MATTER

My name is Tom McMahon and I am hoping to represent Marblehead residents as a member of the town's Board of Health. I grew up in Marblehead and attended the town's public schools K-12, graduating from Marblehead High School with the class of 2000. After graduation, I attended the University of Colorado at Boulder where I completed a double major in History and Economics. Currently I work with Morgan Stanley, through the acquisition of Eaton Vance, as a VP for Data Quality. Throughout my teen years I worked in various businesses in town including Howard's News, Flynnies at the Beach, several small landscaping companies, and I was even one of the last Marblehead Reporter delivery boys. I met my wife on the streets of Marblehead while walking my dog and even married her on those same streets in July 2020, literally (See 01945 Magazine article "Love on Lee Street"). We now have a one-year-old daughter and I want to make sure she enjoys growing up in Marblehead as much as I did.

My favorite part of growing up in Marblehead was the culture and small-town community. One of our greatest assets is that we have knowledgeable / accomplished residents, many of whom are generational, that care deeply about the town. I think this great asset has been underutilized as of late and important decisions are being made with little attempt to tap into that resource to make sure we get the best outcomes possible. I want to bring back a strong level of community involvement by leading with honesty, transparency, and putting in the effort to reach out to residents to make sure any issue I tackle achieves the most beneficial outcome. My focus starts with the following:

#### TRANSFER STATION:

- We need to revisit the board's approved completion design to make sure we don't lose any critical revenue generation we currently get to offset our trash pickup / disposal costs. The current design is not what the town was sold on and agreed to TWICE and there are likely financial consequences resulting in a potential general override because of this.
- The residents, not the board, need to be provided full transparency to make a ballot decision on how we complete this with layout, cost, and financial consequences / benefits of each design clearly portrayed.

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

- The current use of traveling speakers is ineffective. I know because I sat through it when I grew up. The youth in this town believes tragedy doesn't happen in this town until they see it.
- I want to create a program where community members affected by tragedy can come speak to the students and share their stories and pain with pictures that show their lost loved ones growing up in a relatable scene. Playing soccer, sailing, or hanging out with friends locally. Show it happens here and the youth will listen.

#### MENTAL HEALTH:

- The board needs to do better at supporting the Marblehead Counseling Center to relieve their backlog both financially as well as helping promote their fundraisers. There is unfortunately no equal substitute for professional help.
- I think we also need to promote health and fitness by connecting residents with options in town by showcasing them on the board's website as well as working with schools to make parents and children aware. A healthy body can often times lead to a healthy mind. I was that insecure kid in the Marblehead schools. My friends and I discovered fitness and as our bodies became healthy our minds followed.

