

Arlington Town Election: Saturday, April 6, 2024

Polls open 8AM - 8PM

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The Town Clerk provided an opportunity for Town Meeting candidates to submit a statement for publication to help voters make informed choices and to reduce the potential cost of running for Town Meeting. Neither the Town of Arlington nor the Town Clerk endorse candidates. The statements were not fact-checked and if a candidate on the ballot is not listed here, it simply means they did not submit a statement.

In all precincts, there are four 3-year seats as usual and any vacancies to be filled following resignations. The ballot will indicate the number of people to be elected. In all cases, the candidates with the highest number of votes will be seated for three years, the next group will be seated for two years and the final group will be seated for one year. For a precinct electing 5 or 6 members, the vacancies will be filled the same way with two-year and one-year terms filled in the order of the number of votes.

* indicates a candidate for re-election.

Write-in candidates are clearly marked next to their name.

Jump to a precinct with these links:

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Precinct 1

Rebecca Persson*

becca.persson@gmail.com

My name is Rebecca (Becca) Persson and I am running as a candidate for reelection for town meeting in precinct 1. I have lived in precinct 1 for 13 years, been a town meeting member for 6 years, am a member of the Community Development Block Grant Subcommittee, a parent of Ottoson and AHS students, and an active volunteer at Arlington EATS. I was also a precinct 1 co-captain of the 2023 Invest in Arlington Campaign. If elected, I will continue to do my best to vote for policies that make Arlington the best place it can be for all our neighbors, old and new. Feel free to email me with any questions.
15 Fremont St, becca.persson@gmail.com

Greg Dennis*

gdennis@alum.mit.edu, 617-835-9161

My name is Greg Dennis, and I am running for re-election to Arlington Town Meeting. I have been an Arlington resident since 2012 and a Town Meeting Member since 2015. I have three children in Arlington Public Schools, and youth education and recreation remain a high priority for me. My commitment to the schools led me to serve in a leadership role in the 2016, 2019, and 2023 debt exclusion and override elections to better fund our school and town services. I also chaired the Election Modernization Committee, and in that capacity I successfully advanced three pieces of home rule

legislation to improve town elections in Arlington. In 2017, I was one of the leaders behind the bylaw to ban plastic shopping bags in Arlington, and I have continued to support restrictions on single-use plastics in town since. I would appreciate one of your four votes on Saturday, April 6th. Thank you.

Stephen Revilak*

steve@srevilak.net

My name is Stephen Revilak and I'm a Town Meeting candidate for re-election in Precinct 1. My goal is to see Arlington grow, adapt, and evolve to meet the challenges facing our community today, including: reducing greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled, helping to address the region's housing shortage, and attracting more businesses and services to town. I'm a strong advocate for government transparency and I've published nearly 500 sets of public meeting notes on my website, https://www.srevilak.net/wiki/Public_Meetings. I hope for your vote on Saturday April 6th.

Precinct 2

Rajeev Soneja

Email rajeev.soneja@gmail.com

Hello,

I am Rajeev Soneja (he/him) and I am running for Town Meeting in Precinct 2. I am a software engineer and have called Arlington home since 2005. We - myself, my wife and son - live near the Hardy School and what first brought us to Arlington is the same is what we love about it now, the close sense of community, open spaces, the bike path and the many different types of small businesses that make up the neighborhood and the town.

I have served in our town as a volunteer for the:

- Arlington Human Rights Commission (AHRC) 2019-present, including 16 months as co-chair
- Envision Arlington's Diversity Task Group (DTG), 2018-2020, including an year as co-chair
- Arlington Soccer Club coach, 2016-present
- Member of the Diversity & Inclusion Groups within APS (2018-present)

As an immigrant from South Asia, the idea of making everyone who works and lives in this town feel that they belong is of paramount importance to me. My experience in volunteerism and activism for causes in South Asia has intersected with my activism for social justice in Arlington.

I hope to listen to residents in our precinct to ensure that the dedication & energy can be translated into advocacy for policies related to affordable housing, climate change, creating diversity & maintaining accountability within town governance and making sure that the open spaces and the bike path stays safe & available for everyone.

I respectfully request one of your four votes for Town Meeting on April 6th.

Thank You

Mark W. McCabe*

781-648-1895, mmccabetmm2@gmail.com

I have lived in Arlington for over 40 years, raised my 3 children in the Town, through the Arlington school system and the sports programs offered. I have served as a Town Meeting Member for over 13

years. The Town of Arlington has gone through many transitions economically, diversity, population many changes. I would like to see Arlington growing in a positive adventure.

Robert Rossi*

rvrossi@gmail.com

I have lived in East Arlington for 24 years and have represented Precinct 2 as a Town Meeting Member for the past 6. During my time as a Town Meeting Member I have consistently voted to help keep Arlington a safe, inclusive, and welcoming community. I support positive changes to the Town Bylaws aimed at encouraging reasonable and affordable residential and commercial development. I also remain committed to making sure necessary funding and resources are allocated for the Arlington Public School System to meet the challenges of the current and future enrollment demands. And more recently I have worked to make sure the residents of Precinct 2 are informed of Warrant Articles before each Town Meeting by hosting virtual Precinct meetings. These meetings allow Town Meeting Members to hear concerns and opinions from our neighbors that we use when debating each Article. I continue to appreciate and value all of the programs and services that the Town provides, and I would be honored to continue serving Precinct 2 and Arlington as a Town Meeting Member.

John Paul Lewicke

jplewicke@gmail.com

My name is JP Lewicke, and I'm excited to be running for Town Meeting in Precinct 2.

My wife Katrina and I have lived in East Arlington for the last decade along with our two children. In 2021 we moved to Kelwyn Manor, where I've been organizing volunteer days to improve the playground.

As a Hardy parent, I understand the importance of having a well-funded and well-run school system. Last fall, I helped canvass for Invest In Arlington to help our schools stay competitive and avoid situations like the teacher strike in Newton.

My priorities as a Town Meeting Member will include:

- More housing choice and affordability
- Safer walking and biking
- Increasing the reliability of public transportation
- Action against climate change
- Flooding prevention and water quality

I will be a strong advocate this spring for warrant article #14, which would restrict the protest activities which have been targeted at Maura Healey's house and caused so much neighborhood disruption here in Precinct 2.

I'm one of the organizers of Extend the Red Line, which is a new group that will be advocating for better bus service and asking the state to consider extending the Red Line into Arlington. I'm also an active member of Equitable Arlington.

I would love to hear your questions and concerns at any time – please feel free to reach out to me at jplewicke@gmail.com .

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you'll consider voting for me on April 6th.

Precinct 3

Amos Meeks*

amoswmeeks@gmail.com

As I conclude my first term as a Town Meeting Member, I am eager to continue contributing my time and expertise to our community's benefit. I believe that my professional background as a scientist and my personal passion for sustainability are valuable assets for the Town.

In 2020 as the former co-chair of Sustainable Arlington I co-led the campaign for the bylaw to prohibit fossil fuels in new construction. This work is now coming to fruition as Arlington becomes one of 10 fossil fuel free demonstration communities in the state. Seeing the process of getting that bylaw approved by over 90% of Town Meeting inspired me to run in 2021, and now I also serve as an active member of the Town's Clean Energy Future Committee (CEFC).

Beyond environmental advocacy, I am a staunch supporter of diversity, equity, and inclusion. With support from the Arlington Rainbow Commission, I successfully led the adoption of a bylaw recognizing domestic partnerships of more than two people, aligning Arlington with our neighbors in Somerville and Cambridge.

As we navigate pressing challenges in environment, housing, finances, and inclusion, I am committed to leveraging my expertise and passion to facilitate informed, beneficial decisions for Arlington. I ask for your vote to enable me to continue working for a brighter future for our Town.

Nandana Mewada*

nmewada@gmail.com

I have served as a Town Meeting Member from Precinct 3 for the past three years, and I would like to ask for your vote to represent our Precinct for another term.

My motivation to join Town Meeting was to learn about our local government and bring my voice as a woman of color and global professional to our town's governance. As your Town Meeting Member, I have supported issues addressing equity, housing and sustainability, issues that are important to me personally and to Arlington.

My professional background is in the sustainable investing industry in various roles in the financial sector and with non-profit groups. Being Arlington residents for over 17 years, my family values our vibrant community and its strong schools. My children are students at APS. I currently serve on the board of the Arlington Center for the Arts, and I was co-president of the Thompson Elementary School PTO. These experiences have given me the opportunity to meet and work with many amazing people in our town and inspired me to continue contributing to the larger Arlington community.

Lenard Diggins*

LDiggins@gmail.com

As a member of the Select Board (SB), it's even more apparent how much deference is bestowed upon Town Meeting as the Town's legislative body. Therefore, when I make decisions on warrant articles as a

member of the SB, also being a Town Meeting Member (TMM) gives me more incentive to provide clear reasoning to my fellow TMMs as well as my constituents.

Though I'm a regionalist on the "macro" level in that I see Arlington as an integral part of the Boston area, it's easier to practice this holistic approach as a TMM on the "micro" level, b/c we fundamentally understand that all Arlington precincts must collaborate. That said, Arlington has some diverse and distinct areas. East Arlington is quite different from the Heights. The density in the East presents opportunities that may not be practical in the Heights, and I want to continue supporting policies and bylaws that tap into those opportunities and create more opportunities town-wide.

The SB rarely weighs in on zoning issues. As a TMM, however, I do. We are in a growing region, and to the extent that we can tap directly into the creativity and productivity that comes with that growth, we will be better off. Yes, there are challenges that come with growth, but we gain more from facing those challenges rather trying to avoid them.

We have the ability to overcome our big challenges; we just need the will. I want to continue being a part of the driving force that is creating that will, because where there's a will, there's a way!

Precinct 4

Judith Garber*

JGarberTMM4@gmail.com

Hello! I'm Judith Garber and I'm running for re-election for Town Meeting Member in Precinct 4. I've lived in Arlington for 6 years with my husband Eric and our lovely tuxedo cat Jazzy. By day I am a policy analyst at the Lown Institute, a healthcare think tank. In my free time, I play ultimate frisbee in town and love attending local theater productions.

I have always been interested in civic engagement, but decided to get more involved in 2021 after connecting with my neighbors on anti-racism projects in town. As a TMM my priorities have been supporting multifamily and affordable housing to address the regional housing crisis, as well as initiatives to improve diversity and inclusion. Previously I have worked on warrant articles to increase the proportion of affordable units in new developments, and last year I successfully introduced an amendment to reconsider APD's purchase of a new restraining tool.

As a TMM, I strive to learn as much as I can about each article, gather feedback from residents, and contribute thoughtfully to discussions. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to represent precinct 4 so far, and I hope I will get the opportunity to continue. You can reach me at JGarberTMM4@gmail.com.

Clarissa Rowe*

clarissa.rowe@comcast.net 617-413-6712

I have served in Town Meeting for decades. I have also served as an elected Selectman for two terms and as an appointed member of the Select Board twice. My interests jibe with the three purposes of the Community Preservation Act - open space, historic preservation, and community housing. I raised my two children here. I continue to practice as a landscape architect with a firm in Boston. I welcome any questions.

Ezra Fischer*

ezrafischer+townmeeting@gmail.com

After three years as a Town Meeting member, I feel like I am just starting to get fully acquainted with the scope of Town Meeting's power, its processes, and some of its characters. I'm looking forward to the next three years as a time when I can deepen that knowledge, convert more of it to action, and contribute to small but important improvements to Arlington.

During the 2022 Town Meeting, I proposed a warrant article that sought to prohibit town government use of facial recognition technology. What I hadn't realized was that Town Meeting cannot specifically direct town policy. In other words, we can create a bylaw that says no one can eat apples on Tuesdays, but we can't make one that says that just members of town government can't eat apples on Tuesdays. Instead of pushing to pass a bylaw that wouldn't hold up to legal review, I converted it to a resolution that lent Arlington Town Meeting's support to state efforts to regulate facial recognition technology and to set our expectations that town government should not use it either. This passed 213 to 16.

Aside from my one adventure as a proponent of a warrant article, I've focused on educating myself about the issues and making the best values informed votes I can. The times I've been most proud of Town Meeting have been when we've voted to make Arlington a more welcoming place for all kinds of people, pushed Arlington towards a safer future for public safety, and worked to increase viable housing and business growth.

Precinct 5

David F. Swanson*

dswanson922@gmail.com

My name is David F. Swanson. I live on Dartmouth Street with my wife, Stephanie, our 4-year-old daughter, Olivia, our 1-year-old son, Charlie, and our rescue pup, Harley. Since moving to Arlington, I've become an active member of the community: a 7-year Town Meeting Member, an 8-year Arlington Democratic Town Committee member, a current member and vice-chair of the Arlington Community Preservation Act Committee and a former co-chair and member of the Arlington Human Rights Commission (3 years). I also previously worked as Chief of Staff and General Counsel for Arlington state Senator Cindy Friedman (6 years), helping her to shape public policy and improve the quality of life in our community. In addition to these experiences, if re-elected, I will bring to Town Meeting a strong commitment to supporting our public schools, advancing environmental stewardship, and promoting a more welcoming community for all. Evidence of these commitments can be seen in my voting record from the past 7 years, where I voted to support: public school funding for much-needed renovations and new construction; the plastic bag ban and "clean heat" by-laws; and the Trust Act, which ensures Arlington adheres to the same practices as "sanctuary" communities. Finally, if re-elected, I'll double-down on my promise to always be available to residents to discuss Town issues – feel free to reach out: dswanson922@gmail.com. Thank you, and I respectfully ask for one of your votes on April 6th to continue serving as one of your Precinct 5 Town Meeting Members.

Ben Rudick*

benrudick@gmail.com

Hello Arlington! My name is Ben Rudick, and I've been an Arlington resident for about 6 years, having moved here right as my son Micah was born. I now have 3 kids, Micah (5.5), Talia (3.5), and Tova (1.5). I became involved in the Town shortly after moving here as a way to better understand and connect with my community. I care deeply about schools, housing affordability and accessibility (see the Arlington

Neighbors for More Neighbors Facebook page, which I started in 2019), and making Arlington a welcoming place for new residents of all ages and backgrounds. This will be my second term on Town Meeting (hopefully!). Thanks for reading!

Precinct 6

Dr Anna Henkin*

anna@henkin.me

I'm Dr Anna Henkin, and I've been living with my partner here in Arlington on Marion Rd for 9 years while I completed my PhD in Biochemistry at Brandeis. While in graduate school, I participated in the unionization of graduate workers with SEIU Local 509 and co-founded and ran an anti-racism in STEM student group. I've been a Town Meeting Member for Pct 6 for the past three years, and I am proud of the support and contributions I've given to articles that have improved the inclusivity of our domestic partnership policies, increased environmental protections, and increased options for affordable housing. Moving forward, I am particularly interested in improving disability accessibility in town, increasing affordable housing options, addressing issues of diversity and equity, and pursuing environmental protection policies. In Town Meeting, we see the way that seemingly dry and complex bylaws have deep and tangible impacts on the quality of life in our town. Our decisions can change the lives of our neighbors and ourselves. It's a responsibility that I take seriously and treasure. I am excited to continue my contribution to our town's governance in my next term in the Meeting.

Find more detailed information on my platform at <http://tinyurl.com/annahenkin2024>

Email me at anna@henkin.me

Lesley Waxman*

lwaxman@gmail.com

I'm Lesley Waxman. My husband and I have made Precinct 6 our home for the past eleven years, and I have served in Town Meeting for the past nine. I am asking for your vote on April 6th, so I can continue addressing the issues that matter to me the most: housing, civic participation, and preserving a safe and green Arlington.

Part of Arlington's strength lies in our diversity; ensuring that housing here is accessible to people of all income levels is the best way to protect opportunities for Arlingtonians of different backgrounds. I believe we have a responsibility to do our part to mitigate the regional housing crisis, and I voted in favor of the MBTA communities plan.

I'm also passionate about protecting and improving our natural spaces. I have already voted YES to ban plastic bags and single-use water bottles, and I will continue to vote to reduce plastic waste and the use of fossil fuels.

I've always believed that local government is the level of government most responsible for improving the quality of our daily lives. I am the assistant director of the Cambridge Election Commission, and I've served as a member of the Election Modernization Committee here in Arlington, looking for ways to improve local elections. Today, I have every confidence in our process, and appreciate your confidence in me. If you have questions, I welcome them at lwaxman@gmail.com.

Josh Solomon

jlsolomon@gmail.com, 617-852-3751

My name is Josh Solomon and I'm running to represent Precinct 6 in Town Meeting. I have lived in Arlington since 2013. I have two boys, ages 5 and 8, at Hardy Elementary School.

My career has been spent working for youth development and education nonprofits, both in the Boston area and nationally. I have spent the last decade as COO of a civics education nonprofit, called Generation Citizen, that trains teachers to deliver a project based civics curriculum to middle school and high school students. Our work is centered on ensuring that all young people understand how they can use their voice and the tools of government to strengthen their communities so I care deeply about transparent and participatory democracy.

I have also served on the boards of Boston area and national nonprofits and government agencies, including the Somerville library, and bring strong professional expertise managing budgets, personnel and strategic planning.

I will bring an open mind and inquiry approach to Town Meeting, if elected. Issues that I care deeply about include expanding zoning and affordable housing, to continue to make Arlington welcome and affordable to more residents while bringing an environmentally responsible lens. I also want to ensure we do all we can as a town to fill vacant storefronts and support a vibrant set of local businesses as well as investing in our education system in order to make Arlington a great place to live.

Robert Hupp (write-in candidate)

My name is Robert Hupp. I moved to Arlington from Davis Square in 2019.

Any community - urban, suburban, rural - has a range of problems to confront, many in common. It's been my lot to have either lived or worked in all of these. During my years in this area I have been a teacher, Dean of Students, editor, technology editor, collegiate coach and PE instructor, and now a lab researcher.

I have worked with those living in dire poverty, and seen the desperate need for decent housing. I have also seen the damage done to neighborhoods by development done in the name of affordability which did nothing to address the problem. I feel housing is not independent of attendant concerns - schools, infrastructure, traffic/parking, taxation, quality of life, green and open space, heat and noise pollution, all are intertwined.

In the interest of transparency, I'm strongly progressive, but not doctrinaire - I don't accept the entirety of any one philosophy. There are almost always a number of solutions (not necessarily exclusive) which can be employed to address any problem, yet there are seldom shortcuts. It is all too easy to suppress debate with name-calling and unfounded accusations of bias and classism. I'm running because I want to consider issues confronting Arlington with civility, and an open mind.

I am running as a write-in candidate: I ask that you write my name and address in the lines provided below the printed candidates: Robert Hupp, 264 Massachusetts Ave, Unit 301, Arlington.

Precinct 7

Jacob Glickel

glickel@gmail.com

Hello, I am running for Arlington Town Meeting Member to support more responsible development, accelerate sustainability, and to continue Arlington's history of inclusivity. I will advocate for the expansion of businesses in East Arlington including making these areas more walkable and kid friendly. I

live at 42 Bates Road and have grown up and lived in the Boston area my entire life. My family and I love Arlington and want to see it to continue to thrive and be welcoming to everyone. There are a lot of challenges and opportunities facing Arlington and the Boston area and I will bring an open mind to finding solutions that don't stretch our town's budget. I ask for your support on Saturday, April 6 and please contact me with any questions at glickel@gmail.com. Thank You, Jacob Glickel

Roderick J. Holland*

rholland1951@gmail.com

Representing Precinct 7 in Arlington Town Meeting since 2018, Rod has been a resident of Arlington since 1976, a home-owner on Grafton Street since 1996, is the father of three grown children and two grandchildren, an avid cyclist, and a retiree since 2017 after 21 years as an engineer at The MITRE Corporation. Rod is running to support continuation of Arlington's high quality of Town services, excellent schools, Complete Streets, Affordable Housing, and Community Preservation initiatives, and exemplary Police, Fire, and Public Works departments. A member-at-large on the Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee (ABAC), Rod takes a special interest in the broader transportation issues for our full mix of drivers, pedestrians, MBTA users, and cyclists, ranging from kids to seniors.

Jane Biondi*

jane.biondi.tmm@gmail.com

I am running for re-election to Town Meeting from precinct 7, and ask for your vote on April 6th.

My job as your Town Meeting member is to be prepared on every item that comes before Town Meeting and to communicate with and listen to constituents. To that end, in past years I have attended Select Board and ARB meetings, talked with neighbors, attended town forums, and reviewed copious documents and plans with the goal of being thoroughly informed about all sides of the articles before Town Meeting.

But the most important part of the job was hearing from my precinct 7 neighbors about issues that affect them and their thoughts about Arlington's future. We had good conversations about zoning, population growth, taxes, transportation and more. I value those conversations and look forward to hearing more from constituents if I am re-elected.

I kindly ask for your vote on Saturday April 6th.

Marc Lefebvre*

mlefebvre96@gmail.com

My name is Marc Lefebvre and I'm a candidate for reelection as a precinct 7 Arlington Town Meeting member.

I've lived in Arlington for almost 13 years, have three children in the school system (including one at Minuteman), and am running for reelection because I enjoy being part of the deliberative democratic process of our town and value the community we have here.

When I think of our community, I think of the literal communal experiences we have in Arlington, including the wonderful school system, the quality parks, playgrounds and open spaces, the strong public safety departments, the vibrant downtown areas, and an emphasis on equitable, multi-modal transportation options.

It is with an eye toward these aspects of community, and the thoughtful input from our neighbors and the other town meeting members that I discern my votes at Town Meeting. If elected, I will continue to prioritize these things that improve our collective experiences in town. Thank you for your consideration and vote.

-Marc

Ratnakar Vellanki

rvarlingtonma@gmail.com

I've lived in East Arlington for over 5 years. My wife and I moved here in the summer of 2018 and brought our newborn son to our Arlington home in early 2019. He will start at Thompson later this September.

I've been an active participant in town's engagement forums and public hearings over the last year, advocating for our community – primarily around housing affordability and safe streets for walking/cycling.

Here are some of the things I support:

- Housing affordability and residential mobility.
- Safe streets for walking and cycling.
- Public transit.
- Climate change mitigation / adaptation
- Town's financial sustainability while preserving the quality and level of services.

I am respectfully asking for your vote to be your voice in Town Meeting.

I would love to hear from you!

Precinct 8

Caitlin Monaghan

caitlin.e.monaghan@gmail.com, (402) 290-7521

I'm running for Town Meeting (TM) to advance the interests of both current Arlingtonians and the many people who would love the chance to live here, but can't afford to. I moved to Arlington in 2021, and joined TM as a representative of precinct 6 in 2023. In TM, I voted to:

- Increase permissible housing density near public transit
- Remove a restriction preventing the extension of the Red Line
- Simplify rules regarding yard size
- Restrict use of fossil fuels in new buildings
- Put a moratorium on the installation of artificial turf on town property
- Encourage manufacturers to take responsibility for the repair and recycling of their products
- Establish a pilot program to partially subsidize composting for local restaurants

If I am elected to represent precinct 8, my priorities for 2024 will include:

- Allowing the conversion of single-family homes into two- and three-family homes
- Promoting animal welfare through restrictions on pet shops and the sale of new fur products
- Advocating for the warrant article I proposed (Art. 32), which would reduce restrictions on fences near

street corners provided that traffic visibility is preserved

In the long term, I want Arlington to combat climate change by helping residents and local businesses electrify, and to increase our stock of both affordable and market-rate housing by dismantling exclusionary zoning.

Thank you for considering my candidacy!

Irwin Grossman*

irwingrossman11@gmail.com, 781-718-8827

Hi Neighbors - While many of you may know me from coaching soccer, Spookywalk, Touchdown Club, Hosting the AEF Trivia Bee or 5K run, I'd like to address you as a current Town Meeting Member for 18 years. We have had many important issues before us through the years - bringing the first liquor licenses into town, investing in the High School rebuild, overrides, debt exclusions, and untying the Minuteman High School knot. None of these issues were as important as the MBTA Communities Act, which we approved in accordance with state law. This is a key component in keeping Arlington the diverse, welcoming community we all love. I ask for your vote as continue to represent you in Town Meeting as a steady, dependable voice for Arlington's bright future.

Thank you.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions with questions or concerns.

Irwin Grossman

John Gabriel Knoll

gabe.knoll@gmail.com, 970-443-3633

I am running for TM because I want to keep working to help to our town achieve its goals. Last year I volunteered to represent precinct 6 because there were three open seats, and because I wanted to be a more active participant in the community. I truly enjoyed the work, and though the progress was incremental, we generally moved in the right direction. Last year I voted for:

- A moratorium on artificial turf to study its environmental impact
- Restrictions on the use of fossil fuels in new construction
- Removing the restriction that prevented the Red Line extension
- A pilot program to incentivize local restaurants to compost food waste
- Increasing housing density along transit corridors to conform with the MBTA Communities act

Last fall, after renting for more than 13 years, my partner and I bought our first house on Highland Ave. Now, I am asking for your vote to continue serving as a representative in our new forever-home precinct. As a medically disabled scientist who has experienced poverty, the issues that I am most committed to addressing are inequality, climate change and building a more inclusive society. This year I plan to vote for:

- Extending the senior citizen property tax exemption (Art. 21)
- Requiring shade trees in parking lots (Art. 30)
- Allowing fences taller than 3 feet on corner lots if they do not block visibility (Art. 32)
- Allowing multifamily housing in R0 districts (Art. 34)

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Janice Pagliasotti*

janice.pagliasotti@gmail.com 781-859-9945

I am running for reelection to Town Meeting. After the steep learning curve during my first term, I want to continue to use the understanding and knowledge I gained over the past two years.

During my first term, I was pleased to submit an Amendment, which was overwhelmingly approved. However, I'm most proud that, after listening closely to the discussions leading up to and during the meetings, on several occasions I voted differently than I had originally planned. Through Town Meeting, I've learned a great deal about the needs and priorities of our community.

I've lived here for over 30 years and recently retired (though I continue to work a bit). As a single parent, my volunteer efforts focused on school-related activities (Brackett School Council, PTO, Science & Math Enrichment Committee). I also served as president of the Brackett After School Program.

Professionally, I conducted child care needs assessments across the US & globally. After assessing the services available in each community, and the needs and priorities of parents living and working there, programs were developed to fill the gaps. These skills - asking the right questions, understanding the needs, and developing solutions - are my strengths.

I want to continue working to make Arlington a vibrant, welcoming community. I look forward to representing your needs at Town Meeting, and I encourage you to share your views with me (janice.pagliasotti@gmail.com). I ask for your vote on April 6.

Sharon Grossman*

sharongrossman1@gmail.com, 781-771-6489

I have been a resident of Arlington for over 40 years and active in volunteering for most of this time in a variety of capacities from being a PTO Co-President to working on and leading local political campaigns to my current appointment to the Arlington Human Rights Commission, of which I have been a member since 2016. All of this engagement led me to run for Town Meeting in 2020 and I have been grateful to those in Precinct 8 who have voted for me. During this time, I have dedicated myself to learning about the issues facing Town Meeting so that I can be prepared for each meeting, listening to those in my precinct that I hear from, and reaching out to those I haven't heard from. My broad and deep knowledge of the town from my varied volunteer roles has provided me with a context that has helped me to understand the concerns raised at Town Meeting. Issues that our town will face in the coming years and that matter to me include ensuring that we continue to be a welcoming space for all who live, work, and pass through Arlington, housing affordability and access, educating our young people, and climate change.

For me, remaining engaged in my community has always been a guiding light. We have the 'power' to make change and an impact here in Arlington, which can reverberate throughout our state and country. In today's world, being involved in our local community allows me to make a difference. I hope that you will give me another opportunity to be a voice for Precinct 8 in Town Meeting by casting one of your votes for me.

Mary Ellen Aronow*

mearlington@gmail.com; 617-306-6786

First elected to Town Meeting for Precinct 8 in 2022, I ask for your support for representing Precinct 8 by your vote in the 2024 election. My husband, Joe Burns, and our two sons Henry and Edward, live on Addison Street since buying a home here in 2007. I value the warmth of the Arlington family community, and Arlington's unique land and natural resources. My Arlington civic engagement includes: The Arlington Tree Committee, co-author of the town's Tree Protection Bylaw, co-author of Arlington's Tree Mgmt. Plan, past PTO president at Bishop School, and founding member of Green Streets Arlington – a group supporting Arlington with climate resilience and natural spaces through advocacy to enhance zoning, programs, and town policies. My volunteer work brings me alongside Arlington departments, committees, boards, and schools, which enhances my engagement and knowledge as a TMM. Recent accomplishments as a TMM include enhancing the MBTA-Communities final zoning language to include provisions with visions of green streetscapes and an enhanced walkable community by working directly with the Working Group, the town's Planning and Community Development staff, and the Redevelopment Board. This year's Warrant includes an article by Green Streets Arlington which enhances zoning to require shaded parking lots where newly developed. My profession as a forest economist for 29 years has taught me to use a landscape level perspective on ideas and seek metrics to base decisions. I am known for being steadfast to the finish line in my engagement. Please cast one of your TMM votes for my re election to represent Precinct 8

Precinct 9

Alex Bagnall*

alex.bagnall.tmm@gmail.com

I am excited to be running for a second term of Town Meeting for Precinct 9, having previously served two terms as part of Precinct 7. I have lived in Arlington for 18 years, have a daughter at the high school, am a volunteer soccer coach, served on the Remote Participation Study Committee, am currently serving on the Envision Arlington Standing Committee and the Hybrid Town Meeting Study Committee. Housing and zoning are one of the most important issues that Town Meeting wrestles with. I was a strong supporter of the town's effort around the MBTA Communities Act and will continue to work to find ways to reduce our exclusionary zoning rules to allow for the production of new housing, preserve our existing affordable housing stock, and advocate for town-level tenant protections. There is no single solution to our housing problem and we must continue to explore ways in which we, as a town, can be a part of the solution.

You can reach out to me at alex.bagnall.tmm@gmail.com with your questions and comments and I humbly ask for your vote.

Betsy Carlton-Gysan*

betsycarltongysan@gmail.com

I have had the privilege of serving Arlington as a Town Meeting Member since 2021. As a ten-year Arlington resident and parent of two children in its school system, I'm grateful to be a part of this community and all that it has to offer. I also see where we have opportunities to improve - to make housing more accessible, attract new businesses to expand our tax base, make strides toward fighting climate change, and to make our town welcoming to all residents and visitors. I appreciate the past trust placed in me by Precinct 9 residents, and ask for your vote this April. Thank you.

Michael Ruderman*

amruderman@gmail.com, 781-929-7847; for Finance Committee matters use mruderman@town.arlington.ma.us

I am proud to have represented Precinct 9 in Town Meeting for 23 years. I've been particularly involved in land use, zoning, and town finances. I was recently recruited to join the town's Finance Committee, reviewing departments' budgets and making recommendations on warrant articles.

My wife Susan and I came to Arlington in 1990, after we met each other as undergrads at Harvard, and I had spent some years teaching in elementary and middle schools. We raised our daughter Julia, who is a graduate of Thompson Elementary and Minuteman High School. I've been devoted to the success of both schools ever since. I was a member of the Thompson School Rebuild Committee, and I've volunteered in various roles at Minuteman, culminating in a term on its School Committee.

I fell in love with Arlington's history and spirit of civic involvement early on. I served as a member of the Historical Commission for 11 years and Arlington's 200th Anniversary Committee from 2005 to 2007. With Arlington 250, I want to see our town have its deserved share of the Revolutionary spotlight on April 19, 2025. Historical research and writing is my avocation, especially on topics in local history.

Professionally, I've worked in one aspect or another of the real estate industry for 40 years. I am employed by MassDOT in the Right of Way section, working both on the technical issues of eminent domain, and in public outreach and negotiation with stakeholders in the community.

Precinct 10

Charles T. Foskett*

charlie.foskett@foskettco.com or 781-492-0800

Personal: Resident at 101 Brantwood Road since 1974. Married to MaryAnna Foskett. Two adult children, Dan and Holly, graduates of Arlington's Public Schools. Member, St. Eulalia's parish. Member, Arlington Rotary.

My experience has allowed me to serve the Town through

Commitment:

TMM since 1976; 1976-2022 Pct 8, 2022 to present Pct 10 (after precinct changes).

Capital Planning Committee 1986 to 2020.

Chairman 1991 to 2019.

Finance Committee 1987 to present.

Vice chairman 1996 to 2020.

Chairman 2021 and 2022.

Budget & Revenue Task Force 1990 to 2022.

Long Range Planning Committee 2005 to 2022.

Leadership:

Town Meeting Revaluation Advisory Committee 1979-1981

School Reconstruction Study Committee 1991-1994

Rebuild Our Schools Campaign 1998

Rebuild our Schools Campaign 2000, Co-Chair

Symmes Debt Exclusion Campaign, 2001

Symmes Advisory Committee 2001-2004, Chair

Invest in Arlington Override Campaign, 2005, Co-Chair

Town Financial Organization Study Committee 2005-2006

Minuteman Regional Agreement Amendment Subcommittee 2013

My Promise:

My promise is to lead on issues that assure that the citizens of Arlington continue to receive a high level of municipal and educational services from Town and School by focusing on both service delivery and cost control. For example, contributing as a member and chair of Arlington's Capital Planning Committee, the Committee presented 33 successful budgets to Town Meeting, all keeping within a plan of spending no more than 5% of the Town's non-exempt budget. As Co-chair of the second Arlington Rebuild Campaign, I helped fund the rebuilding of four Arlington elementary schools.

Thank you for your vote on April 6.

Shaun Berry

SBerryprecinct10arlington@gmail.com

Hello neighbors! I am excited to represent you as a Town Meeting member. A resident of Arlington since 2016, I am proud to call Arlington my forever home. A former educator with nearly 10 years experience and parent to two children at Brackett, I am a passionate advocate for public education. I am an active member of our PTO, and have served as co-chair/president for two years. I believe our schools are a foundation and true reflection of Arlington's success. I met many of you as I campaigned for the town budget override this November that directly affected our schools. However, Arlington is rich with more opportunities beyond our schools. I hope during my time in Town Meeting we can continue to find ways to fill our store fronts with community minded businesses that invest in our town's success & growth. This spring I am attending the Arlington Civics Academy to further learn of our town's government as well. Arlington truly is a special place! Our family relishes in our community connections, from hosting block parties, having our neighborhood text chain, or just talking with every dog parent at Menotomy Rock's Park. In service to others, our family prepares monthly meals through Community Cooks, and are annual supporters of Food Link & Arlington Eats. During my time as a Town Meeting member I will be an accessible neighbor to you all. It is with this passion and dedication to our community that I ask for your vote for Town Meeting!

Eugene Benson*

eugene.b.benson@gmail.com

I, Eugene Benson, ask for one of your votes for Town Meeting Member in Precinct 10.

In 1990, Marlene and I bought our home on Hillsdale Road. We liked Arlington's location, access to public transit, and what we knew of the town. We have come to love living here for many reasons: the wonderful caring people; the community spirit; the historic sites, the vibrancy of Mass. Ave., with its shops and restaurants; the feeling of safety; walkability; the bikepath; the library; and so much more.

Arlington faces challenges, including responding to climate change, increasing affordable housing, managing with financial constraints, increasing diversity, keeping schools functioning at a high level, and more. I would like to be a Town Meeting member to help work on those issues.

I am a retired public interest lawyer (environment, environmental justice, legal aid), non-profit leader, and adjunct professor (public health, land use and planning, environment). I am on the Redevelopment Board. Formerly I was on the Community Preservation Act Committee, Vision 2020 (now Envision Arlington) Standing Committee and Environment Task Group, and Council on Aging. I helped start and lead the Spy Pond Committee, Reservoir Committee, Sustainable Arlington, and Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park.

I was first elected to Town Meeting in 2022 and have tried to be diligent, thoughtful, and thorough. I

hope you think I have represented our precinct well. I would appreciate your support for another term. Thank you.

David Brecht

Davidbrecht02476@gmail.com

My name is David Brecht, and I am running for Town Meeting in precinct 10. My wife and I moved to Arlington fourteen years ago. We were attracted by the welcoming community spirit and the diversity of people living here—neighbors both lifelong and newcomer, and from nearby, far away and abroad. All three of our children are in the Arlington schools (AHS, OMS and Bishop), and I have been an active volunteer at Bishop Elementary, including serving two years as the PTO co-treasurer. I have deep experience in finance, and if elected I will ensure the town makes the most of scarce taxpayer dollars. Arlington is a wonderful place to live, and my goal is to keep Arlington attractive while also accommodating reasonable growth. If elected, I promise to support the things we value in Arlington:

- strong public schools
- improved transportation links
- preserved open spaces
- improved sustainability
- affordability

Precinct 11

Valerie Geary

valerie.t.geary@gmail.com

Valerie Geary has lived in Arlington since December 2014. She and her husband have two children in APS; their daughter is in the sixth grade at Gibbs, and their son is in the first grade at Bishop.

Since 2013, Valerie has taught courses in writing, literature, leadership, and public speaking at Simmons University. Prior to that, she built a career over the span of 11 years in publishing and still maintains a freelance writing and editorial business. She is passionate about serving her community and runs the Arlington branch of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. She serves as the Communications Coordinator for both the Bishop and the Gibbs/Ottoson PTOs and is instrumental in running large-scale community events at the Bishop, including the annual Bear Fair and the Bishop Play. Valerie also volunteers with Arlington Children's Theater.

Valerie would be honored to represent Precinct 11 as a member of Town Meeting. In particular, she is interested in issues related to our schools, our children, safety, and equity.

Fusun Yaman-Sirin

yamansirin@gmail.com

Hi, my name is Fusun Yaman-Sirin and I am running for a Town Meeting Member position in Precinct 11. I am a mother of three kids who are all in Arlington Public Schools, and we have seven more years in APS before all my kids graduate. I have been living in Arlington for 15 years and I love being part of this community. My family and I decided to move in Arlington because it is safe, welcoming, more diverse and affordable than the neighboring towns, and finally has great public school system. Post pandemic things are changing faster than ever, I can see this is affecting every part of our

community; local businesses (e.g., disturbingly many empty store fronts in the center), schools (e.g., growing classroom sizes despite new buildings) and constant constructions (e.g., three new constructions in two years within my block).

I am confident we will, as a town, make the most forward looking decisions while preserving what we love about Arlington. And I want to be part of that change while advocating for the place we all chose as our home. Specifically, I want to bring an analytical and data oriented perspective to the decisions made at the meetings as I daily do in my job as a researcher. I promise to hear every angle, ask credible evidence that supports claims and consider every case individually rather than coming in with a fixed mindset and agenda.

Precinct 12

Jeffrey D. Thielman*

jeff.thielman@gmail.com

I've served on Town Meeting since 2001 and School Committee since 2003. During my time in Town Government, I led a successful effort to secure funds to improve Spy Pond Park, served on the committee overseeing the rebuild of Thompson School, and participated in the planning and campaign to rebuild the Gibbs facility into a 6th grade school and expand the Thompson and Hardy schools.

As a member of the School Committee, I have been involved in all aspects of overseeing Arlington's public schools, including budget issues, negotiations, curriculum development, policy, and community relations. Since 2016, I have served as Chair of the Arlington High School Building Committee (AHSBC), which is overseeing the construction of our new high school. I've supported and volunteered in debt exclusions and overrides.

I am a parent of three children who have attended Arlington Public Schools, have volunteered in numerous school activities, and coached Bay State baseball. My day job is President and CEO of the International Institute of New England, a multi-state human services agency that serves 20,000 refugees and immigrants each year throughout the region. Our organization is deeply involved in the effort to serve immigrant families living in emergency shelters throughout the state.

My family and I love living in Arlington, I try to be available to listen to and learn from constituents. and I respectfully ask for one of your votes on April 6.

Robin L Bergman*

robinforp12@gmail.com 781-646-3987

An Arlington resident since 1980, and homeowner since 1984, I'm a professional artist/designer/craftsperson with my own small business. I've advocated for more support for arts and culture including the creation of Arlington Center for the Arts back in the 1980s, and as a current member of Art Links Arlington. I'm concerned that working artists like me are getting priced out of our town along with renters, students, seniors, immigrants, the disabled, In addition, I've been a political organizer, field director and campaign manager working on local and national political and issues campaigns. I'm co-founder of Trees As A Public Good statewide network of activists and organizations working to save the tree canopy and forests. Locally, I've helped lead the Issues Committee of the Arlington Democratic Town Committee, helped plan and run statewide and local forums on media issues, the climate crisis, trees, anti-racism, health insurance, affordable housing, elections, voting, ballot and democracy issues. I have researched and worked on recent warrant articles for Town Meeting. Committed to social justice and collaboration, I have a deep commitment to making the world a better place and our town more

diverse and inclusive. With many important issues before the town, I'd love to hear what's important to you. Let's keep Arlington a welcoming place to live and work. I ask for your vote to continue the fulfilling work of being one of your Town Meeting Members.

Richard Pelletier

rp2973@yahoo.com

After following Arlington Town Meeting for ten+ years, I have decided to run in Precinct 12. As a committed advocate for responsible spending, business development, and controlled tax increases, with over 25 years in the Finance field, my approach centers on prudent fiscal management, ensuring that every taxpayer dollar is utilized efficiently and effectively to meet the needs of our community. I also want to bring a new, fresh face to our local government. For too long we have had the same people deciding what is best for Arlington. This year 70% of the candidates running for Town Meeting are incumbents. All of the Select Board, School Committee, and Board of Assessors candidates are up for re-election. The town needs new representation that reflects all of us. Long-term residents of this wonderful town deserve better. Families should not have to consider moving because of the Town's excessive spending. Our property taxes pay for so much and yes, our house values have gone up, but I want residents to feel like their house is a home and not just a piece of property. I am committed to collaborating with others, listening to the concerns of precinct residents, and working towards common-sense solutions that prioritize responsible spending, local business development, and controlled tax increases. I am happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you!

Elena Bartholomew

ebonline51@outlook.com

I am Elena (Kilfoyle) Bartholomew, and I am running, for the first time, to be a Town Meeting member for precinct 12. I've lived in Arlington for all but the first couple of years of my life. I grew up in East Arlington and moved to Newport Street, let's just say, a long time ago! I graduated from the APS, as did my husband and our three children and I currently work as an Administrative Assistant at the Arlington Police Department. Over the years I've served on various school and community-based committees or groups, served several years on the Park and Rec Commission, was a board member for the youth hockey program and most recently helped establish, coach and manage the AYBSA girls' softball program.

I have decided to run for Town Meeting to answer a call to get involved. Being a "townie," if I want to contribute and have an active role in understanding the town administration and future direction, now would be the time. I believe I am a pretty balanced and common-sense type of person and think this would help me in making decisions for the Town. There's nothing wrong with change if it is needed and done in the best interest of the Town.

I would be most grateful if you would consider me for one of your four precinct 12 Town Meeting member choices.

Precinct 13

Kirsi Allison-Ampe*

kirsi.allison-ampe@arlingtontmm.org

Hi, I'm Kirsi Allison-Ampe. I'm a homeowner and a parent, and have lived in Arlington for over 15 years. I've been a Town Meeting member since 2016, first for Precinct 15, then redistricted to Precinct 13. I've also been on the School Committee since 2010, and I serve on the town's Long Range Planning Committee and the AHS Building Committee. During the time I've been in elected office, I've used my skills and experience to help our town make difficult decisions about finances, school buildings, negotiations and much more. I work hard to ensure the best possible education for our Arlington Public Schools students and an optimal experience for our staff. At Town Meeting, I transfer my town-wide political experience to help best represent our precinct. My strong numbers background helps in evaluating many types of questions. When casting my votes on warrants, I think about how issues will affect my neighbors, and what concerns they have expressed. My town meeting email is kirsi.allison-ampe@arlingtontmm.org, please reach out if you have questions or opinions about any upcoming warrant articles. I hope you will consider granting me one of your four votes for Town Meeting so I can continue representing Precinct 13, and I thank you for your time and attention.

Marina Popova

marinap4arl@gmail.com

Hello! I am a 20 year resident of Arlington with two children in the Arlington Public Schools. I love Arlington with its great community, historical sites, unique small businesses, amazing schools and beautiful parks and streets lined with magnificent trees.

I am running for Town Meeting because I want to take a more active role in helping Arlington to continue to be a healthy and welcoming town for all. My top priorities are environmental and health-related issues and initiatives.

I am working with the Arlington Tree Committee on the community canopy program to preserve and enhance Arlington's tree canopy and beautiful open spaces. I am also very concerned with the number and magnitude of gas leaks in Arlington - more than 250 large leaks ! - including a few in Precinct 13, one quite close to the Stratton school. I have joined the Arlington Mothers Out Front gas leak task force to help with their ongoing efforts to address this serious health, safety and environment issue.

I will be pro-active in representing Precinct 13 on Town Meeting and ask for your vote on April 6, 2024!

My contact information:

email: marinap4arl@gmail.com

phone: (617) 221-6772

Jacob Deck

Jacob.h.deck@gmail.com

Hi! I'm Jacob Deck. I'm 26 years old, a lifelong Arlingtonian, and sick and tired of watching Town Meeting from the visitor's gallery. For better or worse, we as a community right in the middle of a few years of town meetings that will determine what kind of place Arlington is going to be for the foreseeable future. If elected to Town Meeting, I'll do my best to ensure that that future Arlington is a responsible, data-driven an efficient Arlington.

Precinct 14

Wynelle Evans*

evco7@rcn.com

One thing you rarely hear anyone say about serving as a Town Meeting member is that it can be a lot of fun. A responsibility and a privilege, yes, but also enjoyable. I love meeting constituents and discussing their concerns, listening to and participating in the deliberations during Town Meeting, and making friends there across the aisle.

I'm running for re-election to continue my service at Town Meeting, and to build on my work for our Town:

- appointed member of the Residential Study Group and the Design Review Working Group
- volunteer contributor to the Zoning Bylaw Working Group's recodification of our Zoning Bylaw
- participant in planning efforts beginning with the 2015 Master Plan
- supporter of the library fund, local scholarships, and relief efforts
- submitter of various Articles since 2016

Additionally, I never miss voting at Town Meeting or a Town election, and I'm a regular attendee at meetings of the Redevelopment Board, Select Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, etc.

I bring the attributes of patience, persistence, attention to detail, and the ability to listen to a wide cohort before setting a course.

I respectfully ask for your vote so that I can continue to represent you at Town Meeting.

Thank you, and please get in touch if you would like to know more!

Michael Stern*

massinvestor@gmail.com

It's been a true honor serving the voters of Precinct 14 the past nine years. During this time period, we have helped make Arlington a better, safer, and more progressive community. We have passed the Master Plan, built and remodeled our schools, and recently passed the MBTA Communities Act to align ourselves with the Commonwealth's legislation to increase available housing. As a parent of two, soccer coach, local business owner, and a Board Member of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, I am deeply committed to seeing our Town grow and prosper. I sincerely ask for your vote in this upcoming election to continue to help keep Arlington moving forward. Thank you-- Michael Stern

Elisabeth Carr-Jones*

elisabeth@carr-jones.com

With the support of my neighbors, I would like to continue serving on Town Meeting to apply the knowledge I've gained in the community, and to continue playing an active role in the decisions important to Arlington.

My motivations are strengthening our neighborhoods, promoting safety, and protecting the natural environment. As an Arlington volunteer, I first served on the Transportation Advisory Committee from 2001 to 2014. As the TAC's representative, I served on the Symmes Advisory Committee and as the Liaison to Walking in Arlington. In 2015, I was appointed to the Envision Arlington Standing Committee, and served until 2021. I began serving as Envision Arlington's representative on Arlington's Open Space Committee in 2017, where I'm currently a Co-Chair.

I've lived in Precinct 14 since 1977. Professionally, I'm a recently retired designer with degrees in

Mechanical Engineering and Architecture. My husband, Alan Jones, is a Town Meeting Member and a Finance Committee Vice-Chair. We are active with the Cooperative Learning Garden at Robbins Farm Park and the Friends of the Crusher Lot, and I am active with the League of Women Voters of Arlington.

It has been a privilege to hear from my neighbors on the issues in front of Town Meeting. I've endeavored to gain a full understanding of the issues, worked to influence decision making and bridge gaps between divergent viewpoints, and to make balanced decisions that move Arlington forward. If elected, this will be my third term.

Precinct 15

Christopher Heigham*

cheigham@comcast.net

I'm Christopher "Topher" Heigham. I have been a Town Meeting Member since 2016 and the Precinct 15 Finance Committee Representative since 2022. In the last year I have attended dozens of meetings for both of these bodies and local issues such as the MBTA Communities Act. I put in the time and do the work, and I respectfully ask for one of your votes on Saturday, April 6.

Mary Ellen Bilafer Bache*

mabilafer@gmail.com

My name is Mary Ellen (Bilafer) Bache and I am honored to have been a Town Meeting Member for the past 18 years. I grew up on Victoria Road, currently living on Cutter Hill Road and have always been in Precinct 11. Now, since the changes, I'm proud to represent Precinct 15. I spent my childhood attending Town Meeting, watching my Dad speak on different issues as Arlington's Town Treasurer. I recall sitting in the balcony on many spring evenings, wondering what it would be like to be down on the floor. I feel that honor and sense of responsibility whenever I enter the Town Hall enclosure. I love being part of the democratic process and constantly learning about how Town government works. I strive to listen to my constituents and make it a goal to respond to everyone who reaches out to me to express their opinion or ask a question. I cannot always promise to agree, but I truly enjoy the process and hearing both sides of any issue. Arlington is an incredible community. I strive to always use my best judgement, and vote with what I believe will be the best for this town - hoping to follow in the footsteps of some of the dedicated, passionate and thoughtful Arlingtonians who have been Town Meeting members before me. I have learned from them, and continue to learn from all of my fellow Town Meeting members. If re-elected, I promise to continue to listen, use my best judgement, be open minded and represent my neighbors to the best of my ability. Thank you for allowing me to serve and I respectfully ask for your vote on April 6th so that I may continue to do so!

Precinct 16

Adam Auster

Email adam.auster.arlington@gmail.com, website <https://adauster.blogspot.com>

Hi, I'm Adam Auster. I hope to earn one of your four votes for Town Meeting on Saturday, April 6, at the Dallin school.

Though new to the neighborhood, I'm not new to Arlington—or Town Meeting.

I am an advocate for sustainable transportation, including fixing dangerous intersections on Park Ave, where I live. Last year, I shared with our Select Board a report about planned cuts to bus service in town.

At Town Meeting, I served as a member of the committee that brought electronic voting to Town Meeting, creating regular records of how your representatives voted.

A resolution I wrote led to the creation of the Residential Study Group, which went on to recommend several changes to Town bylaws to ease the impact of new construction.

For the past three years, I have served as the Assistant Town Moderator.

Your vote will allow me to continue to work on these and other projects for the town.

For more about any of that, please visit my website, adauster.blogspot.com, or drop me an email at adam.auster.arlington@gmail.com.

If you like what you see, please consider giving me one of your four votes.

William Brooks Harrelson*

brooks@harrelson.net

Town Meeting Member for 3 years, have been surprised at the amount of effort, reading, and learning required, but while tiring, it is quite satisfying to learn details of Arlington government and to be a part of democracy at work. I appreciate being able to ask for constituent opinions and provide requested information. I feel some pride in my participation and wish to continue.

I've been a resident of Arlington for over 30 years, and have experienced the changes in town. My son went through the school system here, so I appreciate the strengths and some weaknesses. I've seen the generosity of the residents when Menotomy Moonbats raised money for the schools. I served on the Diversity Task Group of (first Vision2020, now EnvisionArlington) for 8 years, and was a founding commissioner on the LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission. Social equity has been a passion of mine since 1964, for race, religion, gender and sexuality identity, income disparity, and other categories. There are issues in town that need addressing – land use, housing, disability accommodation, traffic safety and control, bicycle safety, and animal control.

I'm CEO of Accordare, Inc., a small software company headquartered in Arlington. I bring an open, analytical mind to problems, and an impulse to create solutions that are win-win for all participants. I am socially progressive and fiscally conservative. I like to see money used well. I hope you will vote for me for Town Meeting in Precinct 16. Thank you.

Grant Cook

grant_cook@verizon.net

I've been an town resident since 1999, originally in East Arlington, where a visit to Quebrada was a morning ritual. After marriage and the birth of my first son, we moved to a larger home in the Pct 16 area of Arlington Heights, where we have lived happily for over a decade. Our two sons attended Dallin, and the eldest is currently at Ottoson. We hope to live here for many more years.

I previously served in Town Meeting while living in East Arlington and have continued to participate in town matters by attending committee meetings and following town issues. As such, I consider myself versed in how initiatives are developed and moved through Town Meeting. I have seen how TM

representatives need to consider not only the words of the most vocal in their precincts but also the needs of many that don't raise their voices, either through lack of awareness or skepticism their concerns will matter.

I have supported the work of our town in crafting a plan for a new high school and in allowing some additional multifamily housing through the work of the MBTA Communities committee. I have great respect for a government run largely by citizen volunteers and believe in treating their efforts with respect, even if one disagrees with their recommendations.

I pledge to represent precinct 16 well by reviewing all Town Meeting materials, giving thoughtful consideration for each article including the perspectives of precinct 16 constituents and being present to vote at Town Meeting.

Rebecca Peterson

rebeccapetersontmm@gmail.com

I've been an Arlington homeowner and resident for over 20 years. Both of my children attended Arlington Public Schools from Kindergarten through 12th grade. I appreciate and value many aspects of life here - our outstanding public schools, excellent libraries, dedicated public safety department, and our wonderful variety of small businesses. I am concerned about maintaining walkable neighborhoods, preserving what little open space we have left, and the increasing property tax burden on residents. I respectfully ask for one of your votes on Saturday, April 6th.

Marvin Lewiton*

mlewiton@verizon.net

As a long-time resident of Arlington, I've always believed that it's important to be engaged with the community, and to participate in the town's civic process. I've been privileged to represent Precinct 16 as a Town Meeting Member for 16 years, and currently serve as Precinct Chair. In that role, I've helped to organize precinct meetings that are intended to inform precinct residents about matters that will come before Town Meeting, and to allow me to hear their opinions and concerns.

Our children attended the Arlington Public Schools, and I've worked over the years to ensure that all students here continue to receive a high quality education. Safety is an important concern, and I've worked with town agencies and boards on making local intersections safer for students, pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.

There will always be issues in town, and it's my belief that they are best resolved when people know about and understand them, and participate directly or through their elected representatives. This has been my goal, and I'm asking for your support so that I can continue to represent the interests of our precinct.

Precinct 17

Amy Antczak

amymccann@gmail.com

I have been a resident of Arlington for ten years and care deeply about this wonderful town. Education is a top priority for me; I have two children who attend Stratton Elementary School and I volunteered for the last two override campaigns. I work as an attorney in the renewable energy industry, and am very concerned about environmental issues. I am also a former leader of the Arlington chapter of Mothers Out Front, a climate advocacy organization. I value diversity, the arts, services for seniors, and public transit. I am excited about the opportunity to represent Precinct 17 and help shape the future of Arlington! Please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

Amy L. Slutzky*

amy.l.slutzky@gmail.com, 617-413-9405

Seven years ago in 2017 I felt compelled to contribute to fortifying our country's democracy and mobilize our human activity to turn around the damage to our planet. Adding my voice to the extraordinary process of Arlington's Town Meeting brought me into government at the ground level. This has only strengthened my appreciation for the Town where I have been living, in Precinct 17 since 2001. My decades of work as a Pediatric Occupational Therapist in the public schools was fueled with an eye on social justice, wellness, mental health, and the critical role public education plays in a healthy society. I felt compelled to contribute to the design of the Peirce Kindergarten Playground, understanding the integral role a compelling and challenging playscape contributes to the development and achievement of all students at school and beyond.

I appreciate our Town's investment in the new High School, Community Center, Public Works buildings, the Reservoir redesign, and our MBTA Community Committee's responsive, inclusive process. Going forward I urge Arlington to bring salaries for all our public school educators up to the level this demanding and critical profession deserves and needs in order to insure the quality of our schools.

Thank you for your interest in our Town government at such a precarious and hopeful time. I hope this statement encourages you to vote for my continued ability to represent you in Town Meeting.

Sincerely,

Amy L. Slutzky

amy.l.slutzky@gmail.com

Ann LeRoyer*

annleroyer12@gmail.com, 781-646-7254

I have been one of your Town Meeting representatives in Precinct 17 for nearly 25 years, since moving to Peirce Street in 1995. I will be pleased receive your vote and continue to serve our neighborhood in this role.

I moved to Arlington in 1989, and have been involved in many town committees and nonprofit organizations throughout that time. I recently retired as chair of the Open Space Committee after 22 years, and continue to serve as a member. I am also a long-time active member of the Reservoir Committee and I serve on the boards of the nonprofit Arlington Land Trust and the historic Old Schwamb Mill. In the 1990s I was on the board of the Arlington Center for the Arts and served as president for several years. I was a member of the 2015 Master Plan Committee and the subsequent Master Plan Implementation Committee until 2022.

I have been actively engaged in public hearings on concerns relevant to Precinct 17, including the redesign of the Mass Ave/Appleton Street intersection, the 40B housing development on the Mirak property (formerly the Theodore Schwamb Mill), and the proposed hotel development at Mass Ave. and Clark Street. I plan to remain involved in future planning meetings on these and other issues of interest to our neighborhood in Arlington Heights.

Thank you for your support, and do contact me with any questions or concerns.

Precinct 18

Barry Jaspan

barry@jaspan.org

Hello, neighbors! I am Barry Jaspan. I've lived on Campbell Road, near Poet's Corner park, for six years, and in the Boston area for 30 years. Last fall, I attended Arlington's first Civic Academy with no plans to seek an elected position, but... here I am, running for Town Meeting for the first time.

I became interested in town government last year, and am now motivated to run for Town Meeting, for two reasons. (1) The athletic field proposed for Poet's Corner park and the church's adjacent land, which I supported, literally abutted my backyard. Through that process, I learned about the old town dump on the site and the disputed safety of digging it up. This greatly concerns me since my family and all of my neighbors would breathe whatever is in the dust during and after construction. This is an ongoing issue because the church's land is now for sale and is likely going to be developed into housing. While I generally support additional housing in Arlington, I want to make sure it is done responsibly and safely. (2) I've recently started commuting to work by bicycle, and I'm loving it. It has raised my awareness of bicycle safety and infrastructure issues such as the proposed improvements at Appleton and Mass Ave, the need for protected bike lanes and secure bicycling parking, and desired improvements on the Minuteman bike trail such as lighting at night, like Cambridge and Somerville have.

Feel free to contact me: Barry Jaspan, barry@jaspan.org.

Jamie Fisher*

jamiejacee@gmail.com

I am running for my third year as a Town Meeting Member. I enjoyed serving as a Town Meeting Member over the past two years, and I would love to continue representing my precinct!

Being active in our community is important to me. I'm a parent to two children at Dallin, serve on the PTO board there, participate in a district-wide working group, and regularly volunteer at Arlington Eats. I enjoy hearing different opinions, doing research, and making informed decisions that will impact Arlington's future. More than that, I love chatting with neighbors about the things that matter most to them.

Thanks for your consideration in this upcoming election!

Jon Gersh*

Jon@planetbanjo.com

Greetings, neighbors! I'm Jon G., over on Kipling Road. For over 20 years I have kept my neighbors informed as much as possible (do I have your email address?) with goings-on in Precinct 18 and Poet's Corner in particular. While I did support the proposed athletic field for Poet's Corner last year, it went down for other reasons. As you may know, there's a toxic old town dump under that site, as well as the submerged Clematis Brook (which surfaces at the Belmont Country Club, along with our sewer overflow), and a wetland. Did you know that Poet's Corner is part of the Charles River Watershed? It's the only part of Arlington that is. So I am very intent on making sure that any future plans for that site

reckon with the challenges that have kept that parcel empty since it was donated to the church in the 1950's. Bill Armstrong (of Armstrong Ambulance fame) told me he used to shoot the rats coming out of the dump with a .22. There are still plenty of rats there, which is yet another issue faced by the neighbors, though flooding is the top issue.

I've been your town meeting member for almost 10 years, and I ask that you return me to my seat. I promise to keep you informed on all of the major zoning articles that we expect to face in 2024. Please write to me. Thank you, Jon Gersh, 24 Kipling Rd. Jon@planetbanjo.com

Precinct 19

Christine Deshler*

christinedeshler@hotmail.com

I have represented Precinct 19 in Town Meeting for the past 30 years. I am currently the Chair of the Arlington Finance Committee, on which I have served for the past 15 years. I am also a member of the Town's Long-Range Planning Committee, the Audit Advisory Committee, and the Budget and Revenue Task Force. It should come as no surprise that I am a fiscal conservative.

I am equally committed to improving the social fabric of our community. I was a founding member and Chair of the Arlington Human Rights Commission, and was proud to work on it for 15 years, prior to my appointment to the Finance Committee. I also served on Envision Arlington (formerly Vision 2020) for several years, where I helped create what would ultimately become the Commission for Arts and Culture; was a member of the Town's Building Maintenance Committee, which was instrumental in creating a new Department of Facilities charged with helping to prolong the life of our capital assets; and the Maintenance of Public Lands Working Group, whose focus was on protecting and improving our Town's parks and open spaces.

I am a lifelong Arlingtonian and a product of its public school system. I am a strong proponent of our schools, and supported the most recent override as Co-Chair in the "Invest in Arlington" campaign.

John P. Griffin

j_cgriff@verizon.net, (617) 388-0672

My family and I moved to Arlington in 2010 and we love living here. Arlington offers so much: competitive schools, the bike path, a skating rink and many other great features. Still, we can't take Arlington for granted.

So many people before us worked hard to create and maintain all those things that we enjoy today. Now it's our job to make sure that Arlington continues to be a great town in which to live and raise a family. To accomplish this, we need to spend our tax dollars wisely, invest in our town and foster a shared sense of community.

I work on the Arlington Town Finance Committee. I was also the Treasurer for the Parent Teacher Organization at the Peirce Elementary School. I understand that resources are always limited – so it's important to appreciate every tax dollar and make sure that we are spending them carefully.

If we take this approach, I am sure that Arlington will continue as the vibrant community that we love so much.

Precinct 20

Robert (Bob) Tosi, Jr.*

Cell # 857-998-0446, Home # 781-646-8120, bobtosi@verizon.net

If you are reading this, I applaud your interest in local elections and issues that face us as residents of Arlington. Too few vote in local elections and even fewer take the time to educate themselves on candidates for local elections. I am a candidate for re-election for Town Meeting Member. Why should you give one of your votes to me? I strive to attend every session of town meeting and stay until each meeting is adjourned for the night. I encourage feedback or questions from any constituent and have always made my personal e-mail and phone #'s available to the public. When a resident of Arlington especially Precinct 20 e-mails or calls I listen to what they are concerned about and respond with any follow up questions and/or information to clarify the facts. The largest responsibilities of town meeting are related to zoning and budgets. As a former Arlington Finance Cmte. member I understand very well how our town budget is developed. Zoning has been divisive as our town tries to provide more affordable housing, maintain and grow tree canopy to reduce heat zones and comply with state housing laws. I value all the services Arlington provides to our children thru our senior citizens. If you have any thoughts on current or future warrant articles or desire to speak at town meeting on a warrant article, please reach out to me. Thanks for your consideration.

Sarah McKinnon*

smckinnonar@gmail.com

When my partner and I brought our two children to Arlington nine years ago, I was unfamiliar with Town Meeting. Much of my first term I listened and learned to gain a sense of how decisions are made in Town both historically and now.

I'm seeking your support for a 2nd term because I want to keep learning, I enjoy the collegiality, and I appreciate connecting with and supporting my neighbors. I'm interested in how local efforts can support larger, global movements to foster climate resilience, address social inequity, and cultivate caring, diverse communities.

As a Town Meeting Member, I supported phasing out single-use plastic bottles and gas-powered leaf blowers, expansion of Blue Bikes, protection of the tree canopy to mitigate heat islands, cleanup of the Alewife Brook and other waterbodies, and the adoption of Net Zero emissions goals and other milestones.

As an avid cyclist, I participated in the public consultation process for the Appleton and Mass Ave intersection, and I will advocate for improvements to the Park Ave crossing for those who walk and those who roll. I joined the Public Mural Art Advisory Team because I believe a thoughtful renewal of our public spaces in the Heights will encourage community connection. I also co-led the selection process for the Diversity Task Group's nominee to the new Civilian Police Advisory Commission, which is a new path for communication and mutual understanding.

I appreciate your vote! Reach out: smckinnonar@gmail.com

Precinct 21

Anne Ehlert*

annee319@gmail.com

I have lived in Arlington for 26 years and have enjoyed serving as a Town Meeting Member for six years, and believe that Town Meeting is a valuable institution. It is particularly important in the current environment for the residents of the town to have a voice in shaping the future of the town. As Town Meeting Members, we vote on articles brought before us, and, like you, can voice our opinions during the process that occurs before Town Meeting. I promise to continue to consider the impact of proposed changes on the current residents, and to carefully consider the feedback I receive from residents. This is your town. I have been actively following and participating in the proposed project for the Mt. Gilboa woods, and am carefully following proposed zoning changes as well as other issues, and will continue to do so.

Please feel free to reach out and share your thoughts to Annee319@gmail.com. I appreciate the emails I receive, and your support.

Joanne Cullinane

My name is Joanne Cullinane and I am running for Town Meeting. I have lived in Arlington for twenty years, first in East Arlington and now in the Peirce school area.

I love Arlington for many reasons: its friendly people, sense of community, captivating history, wonderful libraries, businesses, parks, and ponds. As a Town Meeting member I will strive to make sure the town continues to be a great place for people of all backgrounds to live, work, and play.

Both of my children have gone through Arlington Public Schools. As a parent I have volunteered on field trips, science nights, school fairs, and in the classrooms. I fully support our schools as I have seen the amazing work our teachers do.

Over the years my family has always appreciated Arlington's parks and open spaces. From the Rez to Mt. Gilboa, we are fortunate to have some of Arlington's most prized jewels within our precinct. I love how residents here coexist with the natural habitat and I will work hard to preserve that delicate balance.

In addition to our natural treasures, I will make sure the Town avoids squandering precious financial resources. When maintenance on town property is deferred until large repairs are needed, the fix is far more expensive than necessary. The crumbling cupola on our historic Town Hall, which has now caused damage to rooms inside, is emblematic of a careless approach to spending our money.

If elected I will work hard to represent the people of precinct 21. Please vote for me on April 6th.

Carmine Granucci*

carmine.granucci@gmail.com

My wife and I, along with our 13 year-old daughter and almost 2 year-old Bernedoodle, live in the Arlington Heights section of Arlington. I currently work at OM1 as the Associate Director of IT.

As a dedicated member of the Arlington community and an advocate for diversity and inclusion, I am running to represent Precinct 21 with a vision to foster a welcoming and vibrant Arlington for all. My commitment is to enact progressive changes that will enhance our town's spirit of community and inclusivity.

Central to my beliefs is the goal of expanding housing accessibility. I aim to promote policies that not only increase the supply of housing but also ensure that it is attainable for everyone. By advocating for zoning reforms and financial inclusivity, we can create a diverse range of housing options that cater to all residents, from young families to seniors.

Education, diversity, and social justice are also part of my core values. I will strive to empower our schools, uphold equity, and ensure every voice is heard.

Arlington is great town, full of community spirit, giving, support and pride. I hope to help facilitate positive and progressive changes to our community as it grows. By representing precinct 21, I plan to lead our neighborhood's inclusive and forward thinking vision and be a supportive voice to town government.

Tonya Bourassa (write-in candidate)

tonya.bourassa@gmail.com

My name is Tonya Bourassa and I am asking for your write-in vote to represent Precinct 21 for Town Meeting. I have lived in Arlington and Precinct 21 since 2010 along with my husband, Eric Bourassa, and our 10 year-old twins who attend the Peirce school. While spending many hours on the sidelines at soccer fields, ball games, and the ice rink, I've had conversations with neighbors from Precinct 21, and across Arlington, about what makes our community special, and what can be improved. I care deeply about the environment, education, inclusion, and smart development. Professionally, I have worked in public service at state agencies focused on clean energy and health care for the past 15 years. I ask for your write-in vote for me on April 6th so that we can work together for our neighborhood and town.