

## Planning Board

2 for 3 years

League Question: Given the recent turnover and the amount of work for the planning staff, what should the Planning Board's goals be to develop a strong working relationship with the new Planning Director?

### Incumbents:

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Resident	1962-1976, 1985-present
Planning Board	2005-present Chair 2007-2009, 2013-2015
Community Preservation Committee	2016-present
League of Women Voters	Treasurer 2016-present
Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC)	2018-present
School Master Plan Advisory Committee	2018-present
2020 Vision Committee	2006
Capital Expenditures Committee	1997-2003 (Chair 1998-2000)
Town Meeting Members Association	Treasurer 2002-2004 Vice-chair/Chair 2004-2005
Town Meeting Member, Precinct 8	1990-1993, 1995-2019

### Question

A strong working relationship between the Planning Board and the Planning Director is critical to the Town's ability to meet its planning goals. That relationship consists both of working relationships between individual members and the Director, and that of the Board as a whole.

As individuals, we need to respect the staff's goals and priorities, especially when they differ from our own. We also need to respect the staff's professional expertise in planning, especially when we disagree with their opinions. I have always tried to listen to and understand staff's concerns, and to support their own priorities in addition to my own. For example, this year I helped draft and present changes to the zoning bylaw related to site plan review requested by

staff and worked with the new Director to revise my own proposals for solar energy changes in light of her experience.

The same respect needs to be demonstrated in the work of the Board as a whole. That means giving the Director a 'seat at the table' in all our discussions. Despite past problems, I believe that the Board has started well with the new Director and have high hopes that this will continue.