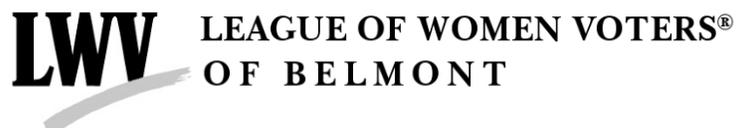


*Belmont Town
Election
Voter Guide*

*Election Day is
Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

published by



VOTER GUIDE

to the

BELMONT TOWN ELECTION

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

7 AM to 8 PM

This Guide is prepared by members of the League of Women Voters of Belmont to provide you with information on all of the candidates who will appear on your ballot for this election.

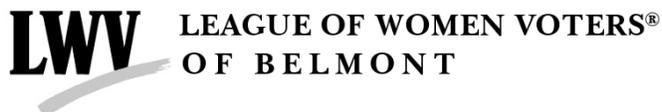
The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization. It does not endorse or oppose any candidates. The League's purpose is to promote political responsibility through the informed and active participation of all citizens.

All candidates were contacted by mail and asked to respond to the following question: "Belmont citizens look to our elected officials for fair and responsible solutions to the issues facing our community. Please discuss an issue or two which you consider important to the future of the town, presenting your ideas for managing them effectively." Responses were limited to 70 words and printed verbatim as written by the candidates.

Candidates who did not reply to the questionnaire sent to them by the League are included in the Guide so that you will have a complete list of candidates.

An asterisk (*) preceding the candidate's name denotes an incumbent. Where applicable, attendance at Town Meeting for the past three years, according to the Town Clerk's records, is given in parentheses. In all cases, the second number indicates the number of Town Meetings the candidate was eligible to attend. If one or more Special Town Meetings are held on the same night as a regular Town Meeting, each is counted as a separate meeting.

If you value receiving the Voter Guide, please help us to cover the costs of printing and distribution by making a tax-deductible donation to the Belmont Voter Education Fund. This fund covers the cost of sending the Voter Guide to every household in Belmont. Please mail your contribution to LWV Belmont, P.O. Box 426, Belmont MA 02478 or use the link for "Voter Ed Fund" here: http://BelmontLWV.org/donate_form.html. Thank you for your support.



The League offers free rides to the polls for every election! Call 617-771-8500 or email rides@BelmontLWV.org. For more information about the League, go to our web page: BelmontLWV.org

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN-WIDE OFFICE

MODERATOR

For 1 Yr.

Vote for One

* MICHAEL J. WIDMER

126 Gilbert Road

Because of my great respect for Town Meeting as Belmont's legislative body, I have worked to ensure that presentations are clear and concise, that discussions are focused on the major issues, that repetitive and extraneous comments are limited, and that the meetings are conducted in the fairest way possible. It has been a privilege to serve as Moderator since 2008 and I welcome your suggestions for improvements.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

For 3 Yrs.

Vote for One

GUY A. CARBONE

65 Woodfall Road

Fiscal Balance. Belmont must balance its spending needs against the ability of residents to pay for them. Many homeowners and renters – singles, families, senior citizens – are having a difficult time financially. Budgetary and capital needs must be carefully prioritized and sequenced to accommodate these fiscal realities. Thoughtful development is an important way to enhance Belmont's tax base. Compatibility with our neighborhoods and quality of life is essential to achieving this.

ADAM DASH

12 Goden Street

Important issues include school enrollment, failing roads/buildings, and budget stabilization. Together, we need to (1) create a vision for our future, based upon shared values of community, education, family and inclusivity, and (2) take action. I have served on Belmont's Warrant Committee, Underwood Pool Building Committee, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Town Meeting. I understand Belmont's needs in detail. I can help drive this collaborative process and get things done.

TOWN TREASURER

For 3 Yrs.

Vote for One

* FLOYD S. CARMAN

184 Brighton Street

Belmont faces many financial challenges. They include sustaining voter-approved levels of town and school services while investing in roads, water and sewer system, electric system and buildings. The Treasurer must represent the financial interest of all residents, those that have the financial resources and those that may not. I will continue to implement sound financial practices and planning efforts in debt management, revenue collections, cash flow and investment management.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

For 3 Yrs.

Vote for One

*** ROBERT PAUL REARDON**

73 Van Ness Road

The town of Belmont like many other surrounding municipalities is facing many difficult decisions on maintaining vital services and our high quality schools during difficult financial times. The Board of Assessors must ensure that all real and personal property is valued at fair market value as well as capturing new tax base growth to make sure every taxpayer is paying their fair share of real estate taxes.

BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

For 3 Yrs.

Vote for One

*** ALEXANDER E. CORBETT, III**

114 Alexander Avenue

I very simply look forward to another term continuing to work with the other commissioners and our fantastic DPW staff members to keep Belmont's two cemeteries beautiful as a tribute to our loved ones and their families.

BOARD OF HEALTH

For 3 Yrs.

Vote for One

*** DONNA SUE DAVID**

589 Belmont Street

Safety in food handling and service in our restaurants and groceries is, and always has been, a priority. With our terrific Health Department staff, we provide on-going education to these establishments, and when necessary, will summon a restaurant owner before the Board for more review and recommendations including temporary closure if indicated.

TRUSTEES OF BELMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY

For 3 Yrs.

Vote for Two

*** KATHLEEN KEOHANE**

19 Rutledge Road

The Library is a vital public resource that serves all members of our community. As a Trustee, I have worked to achieve key milestones including the development of a long range plan, expansion of library services and children's room hours, hired a new Director, consolidated facilities management, and demonstrated strong fiscal management. I am committed to continuing our progress and partnerships and ask for your vote to do so.

*** GAIL S. MANN**

196 Payson Road

As Trustee, I have worked to support the Library's programs and services. Statistics indicate increasing usage. Trustees must also address the reality of an old building with systems approaching end of life to ensure that the Library will remain accessible to patrons. I will solicit and consider the views of all stakeholders and advocate for a reasonable approach for the facility and explore multiple funding sources. I ask for your vote.

DAVID N. STIEVATER

24 Long Avenue

Our library is a vital part of our community. We have high and growing use, especially when compared to the rest of Massachusetts. However, the building is outdated, inefficient and breaking down. We need a modern library, better suited to the needs of the next 50 years. Given other big projects in town, I believe that raising private money is the key to gaining agreement on a new library building.

For One Yr.

Vote for One

* CORINNE McCUE OLMSTEAD

28 Stone Road

The role of the community library is changing and expanding in the digital age. Supporting Belmont's library effectively as it navigates these changes is critically important. As a Trustee I seek to balance addressing short term needs with longer term goals. Increased enrollment in Belmont's schools extends to the library and as a parent of young children I am also able to provide a perspective on children's programs and services.

MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

For 3 Yrs.

Vote for Two

* THOMAS M. CAPUTO

63 Richmond Road

The two biggest challenges facing Belmont are our rapidly growing student enrollment and aging infrastructure. Belmont has added 507 new students over the last five years and is projected to enroll another 300 students by 2019. This enrollment, coupled with overcrowded buildings, will demand thoughtful and creative solutions. In upcoming years, Belmont must leverage the BHS building project opportunity to deliver a district-wide solution that maintains our high quality education.

CATHERINE AC BOWEN

67 Bartlett Avenue

The rapidly increasing enrollment, which in combination with limited space, personnel, and budget, makes meeting the needs of the entire school population adequately and equitably an ongoing challenge. The BHS renovation presents an opportunity to examine new grade combinations and re-examine curricular needs, as well as remedy basic infrastructure failings. Immediate space constraints at the elementary level must be remedied with student learning, health, and wellness as the leading priority.