

Letter in support of the re-election of Muriel Kramer for Selectman

Editor:

When I ran for Selectman two years ago I did so for one reason only. At the time, the Board was the subject of much ridicule and, more often than not, the subject of a Metro-West News article that was most often an embarrassment to our Town. It appeared that decisions were made not in the clear light of day and they were therefore suspect. I love Hopkinton and if fortunes are kind enough to me and my family we will remain here forever.



During my first year, Muriel was Chair and some of the same name calling and innuendos were still present. Muriel was always polite, although at times frustrated by the infighting on the Board. Progress was made, the Whitehall property purchased, the Town Manager appointed in accordance with the charter and we were well on our way into the Weston Nurseries issues. Muriel is a process person. Issues must be fully vetted in front of the public, and be absolutely transparent, before action is taken. The appeals that have stymied the Fruit Street project have been frustrating for Muriel as well as the rest of us and are the result, at least in my opinion, of the way things were done in the past.

Muriel has a good sense of what is right or wrong and is not bashful to share this with her fellow Board members. She may not always agree but is always gracious in defeat. She works tirelessly and has been instrumental in integrating the Town Manager into the everyday running of the Town. Muriel is absolutely crystal clear and works to get issues before the people so that the community can decide important issues. The Weston Nurseries project is a case in point. The subject was thoroughly vetted over the past two years and just as she said, all parties would not get everything they wanted, but they were assured of the opportunity to comment and make their concerns known.

Muriel has made us a much more professional Board. We each have our own ideas and we share them with each other during the meeting process and even though our side might not prevail we all recognize that it's the Board's vote that is important, not our own personal opinion. Please support Muriel's run for re-election and keep us on the path of prosperity, dignity, concern for all and respect among our adjacent communities.

Michael Shepard
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