

# Select Board



*Top Row L-R: Wendy Rovelli; Cameron McKennitt*

*Bottom Row L-R: Terri Ackerman; Mary Hartman, Chair; Mark Howell, Clerk*

## *General Business*

The Select Board entered 2024 with Henry Dane as Chair, Mary Hartman as Clerk and Terri Ackerman, Linda Escobedo, and Mark Howell as members. At the conclusion of Annual Town Meeting, Mr. Dane and Ms. Escobedo retired from the Board, Ms. Hartman was elected as Chair, Mr. Howell as Clerk, Ms. Ackerman remained a member, and Cameron McKennitt and Wendy Rovelli joined as the Board's new members.

The Select Board is responsible for developing and implementing town policy for all town matters other than the schools and issues that state and/or local laws delegate to other commissions. Some specific responsibilities of the Select Board are:

- > Appoint and evaluate the town manager.
- > Approve the calendar and warrant for Annual and Special Town Meetings.
- > Review town operating and capital budgets.
- > Hold an annual public hearing prior to tax classification decisions and Select Board sponsored articles at town meeting.
- > Create and dissolve Town boards, committees, task forces and working groups.
- > Appoint citizens to boards, committees, task forces and working groups and approve appointments made by the Town Manager.
- > Act as liaisons to boards, committees, task forces and working groups and report the activities of these groups at Select Board meetings.
- > Act as the authority to grant numerous permits and licenses.
- > Represent the Town to a variety of regional, state and national organizations including:
  - Minuteman National Park
  - Hanscom Field
  - MBTA
- > Gratefully acknowledge gifts, grants and recognitions given to the Town.

## *Select Board Goals and Initiatives*

The Select Board annually affirms town values and guiding principles by establishing goals and objectives. For FY24, the Select Board goals are:

### **Town of Concord Select Board Goals: Process**

- > The Concord Select Board annually reaffirms its values and guiding principles to align its goals and objectives with the needs of the community. This process ensures effective governance by fostering collaboration between the Select Board, the Town Manager, committees, task forces, citizens, and other governmental entities. By establishing strategic priorities, offering support and guidance, and promoting transparency and inclusivity, the Board strives to enhance the efficiency and responsiveness of town government.

### **Effective Governance, Board Organization, and Communication**

- > The Select Board is committed to improving the efficiency, quality, and focus of town governance.
- > This includes refining internal processes, enhancing communication among officials and with the public, and ensuring that decision-making is both transparent and accountable.
- > By fostering a culture of collaboration and open dialogue, the Board aims to strengthen trust and engagement between town leadership and the community.

### **Financial Stability**

- > Ensuring the town's financial stability is a key priority.

- > The Board will work towards implementing a Residential Tax Exemption to provide tax relief for qualifying residents while simultaneously identifying opportunities to reduce costs and tighten the Town's Fiscal Year 2025 budget.
- > Additionally, creative revenue-generating strategies will be explored to enhance the town's financial resilience.
- > A comprehensive review of the Town Manager and Town Departments' Fiscal Year 2024 goals will be conducted, and a strategic planning process will be initiated to define the town's priorities over the next five years.

### Sustainable Infrastructure

- > The Select Board is dedicated to supporting sustainable and forward-thinking infrastructure initiatives.
- > This includes advancing the MBTA Communities Zoning efforts to promote responsible development, supporting the Housing Production Plan to address local housing needs, and collaborating with the Solar Implementation Task Force to further climate action goals.
- > Additionally, the Board will sponsor a town-wide Transportation Study to assess and improve mobility options for all residents.

### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- > The Board recognizes the importance of fostering an inclusive and equitable community.
- > To this end, it will support the development of a comprehensive Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan that ensures equitable access to town resources and services for all residents.
- > By prioritizing inclusivity in governance, the Select Board aims to create a welcoming environment that reflects and respects the diversity of the Concord community.

### Gifts and Acknowledgements

DONOR	AMOUNT	RECIPIENT
Concord Lumber	\$1,760.43	Concord Fire Department
Leigh Family Gift Fund	\$1,000.00	Concord Council on Aging
Friends of the Concord-Carlisle Fields	\$50,000.00	Friends of Concord-Carlisle Fields/Field Maintenance
Barrow Bookstore	\$1,250.00	War Memorial Gift Fund for George Dugan Soldiers Monument
Concord-Carlisle Community Chest	\$6,000.00	Concord Recreation School Year Childcare Scholarship
Sprint Spectrum, LLC	\$500.00	Public safety storage/ value Equipment Shed
Alcott School Parent Teacher Group	\$1,794.00	Concord Recreation Scholarship Fund/Turkey Trot
Concord -Carlisle Chest	\$12,712.00	Council on Aging Outreach
Concord-Carlisle Chest	\$5,905.50	Council on Aging Social Services Coordinator
Concord Recreation Shamrock Ball donations	\$3,097.00	Concord Recreation Scholarship
Concord Garden Club	\$900.00	Concord Natural Resources Division Garden Club
Thomas G. Curtin-Bobby Kargula Nanae Fund	\$7,500.00	Town of Concord Cultural
Middlesex Savings Bank	\$1,000.00	Concord Fire Department
Friends of Sleepy Hollow Cemetery	\$3,000.00	Cemetery -Matthews Bronze Plaque on a concrete base
Coeur de Lion Commandery #34	\$500.00	Town 250th Gift Account in honor of Maynard Forbes
Nancy Nelson & Mike Lawson	\$500.00	Town 250th Memorial Trees
Judith Perkins	\$500.00	Town 250th Memorial Trees
Charles Davidson & Julie Davidson	\$1,100.00	250th Discover Concord Ad Campaign
Collins Family	\$2,500.00	Town 250th Memorial Trees
Garden Club of Concord	\$3,500.00	Town 250th Memorial Trees
Anne W. Hayden	\$2,500.00	Town 250th Discover Concord Ad Campaign
Fenn School	\$5,000.00	Town 250th Memorial Trees
Middlesex School	\$50,000.00	Town 250th Memorial Trees
Concord Free Public Library Corp	\$30,000.00	Concord Free Public Library
Nashoba Brooks School	\$2,000.00	Town 250th Memorial Trees
Elizabeth Wilczek	\$1,000.00	Concord 250th Gift Account