

# Select Board Meeting Packet

December 13, 2021

*This is the Select Board preliminary preparation information packet. The content of this package is subject to change between when it is released and the start of the Select Board meeting. Such changes will not be posted to the web site before the meeting. If you see an item or items in the preliminary preparation package that are important to you, please attend the meeting in person.*



# TOWN OF GROTON

173 Main Street  
Groton, Massachusetts 01450-1237  
Tel: (978) 448-1111  
Fax: (978) 448-1115

# Select Board

Rebecca H. Pine, Chair  
Alison S. Manugian, Vice Chair  
Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk  
Joshua A. Degen, Member  
John F. Reilly, Member

**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021**  
**AGENDA**  
**SELECT BOARD MEETING ROOM**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR**  
**GROTON TOWN HALL**

**6:00 P.M.** Executive Session – In Joint Session with the Finance Committee – Pursuant to M.G.L., c. 30A, §21(a), Clause 3 – “To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Purpose – Collective Bargaining

**7:00 P.M.** Announcements and Review Agenda for the Public

**7:05 P.M.** Public Comment Period

I. **7:06 P.M.** Town Manager’s Report

1. Town Manager’s Explanation of Agenda Items
2. Consider Ratifying Town Manager’s Appointment Lauren Marcello as the Community Engagement Specialist for the Council on Aging
3. Consider Accepting the Nomination of Steve Savage by the Town Manager to the Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee and Appoint Mr. Savage to the Committee
4. Update on Fiscal Year 2023 Proposed Operating Budget
5. Update on Select Board Meeting Schedule Through the End of the Year

II. **7:10 P.M.** Items for Select Board Consideration and Action

1. Electric Car Charging Station Update
2. Review and Approve Interview Questions for HCA Interviews

III. **7:15 P.M.** Consider Renaming Redskin Trail

IV. **7:30 P.M.** Interview and Consider Appointing Membership to the Destination Groton Committee

## OTHER BUSINESS

**ON-GOING ISSUES** – Review and Informational Purposes – Brief Comments - Items May or May Not Be Discussed

- A. Water Department – Manganese Issue – PFAS Issue
- B. Green Communities Application and Implementation
- C. Florence Roche Elementary School Construction Project
- D. Bystander Training
- E. Mask Mandate
- F. Electric Car Charging Stations

## SELECT BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

V. Minutes: Regularly Scheduled Meeting of December 6, 2021

## ADJOURNMENT

**Votes may be taken at any time during the meeting.** The listing of topics that the Chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting is not intended as a guarantee of the topics that will be discussed. Not all topics listed may in fact be discussed, and other topics not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.



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**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

**To:** *Select Board*  
**From:** *Mark W. Haddad – Town Manager*  
**Subject:** *Weekly Agenda Update/Report*  
**Date:** *December 13, 2021*

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

1. In addition to the Town Manager's Report, Items for Select Board Consideration and Action and a review of the On-going Issues, there are two items scheduled on Monday's Agenda. First, we have scheduled time on the Agenda for the Board to determine the new name of Redskin Trail. We have received the following recommendations for the new name:

Nipmuc Trail  
Oak Trail  
Oak Tree Trail  
Nashaway Trail  
Red Fox Trail  
Salmon Brook Way  
Skinner Forest Way  
Mountain Lakes Road  
Mountain Lakes Trail

Select Board Chair Pine talked with a representative of the Nipmuc Tribe to get information of the history of the Tribe in Groton. Based on the information received, we are recommending that the Board rename the road "Nipmuc Trail". The Nipmuc were known as 'the fresh water people' and generally lived along the rivers and streams in the area. Since Redskin Trail runs along one shore of Lost Lake, Nipmuc Trail appears to be the best choice. In addition, the name could help the current residents of Groton know that the native people who lived here before the settlers arrived were the Nipmuc. I have attached to this report the History of the Nipmuc for your review and consideration. I have sent a letter to all residents of Redskin Trail notifying them of this recommendation and inviting them to the meeting. Second, I have invited the applicants (Joan Parker-Roach, Julie Platt, Jeff Gordon, Mairi Elliot, Greg Sheldon, Brenda Perreault) interested in serving on the Destination Groton Committee to the meeting for interviews. I have attached their interest forms to this report for your review.

**Select Board**  
**Weekly Agenda Update/Report**  
**December 13, 2021**  
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2. As you will recall, the Select Board and Finance Committee had approved creating a new position within the Council on Aging known as the Community Engagement Specialist. This new position replaced the former Volunteer Coordinator position. We advertised for this position and received 20 applicants. Ashley Shaheen and Melisa Doig interviewed four of the applicants and asked me to appoint Lauren Marcello of Cumberland, Rhode Island to this position. I met with Lauren and fully support this request. Please consider this as formal notification of this appointment. Enclosed with this report is Lauren's cover letter and resume for your review. I would respectfully request that the Board consider ratifying this appointment at Monday's meeting.
3. The Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee has requested that I nominate Steve Savage for appointment to the Committee. Please consider this as my nomination of Mr. Savage to the Committee. I would respectfully request that the Board make this appointment at Monday's meeting.
4. With regard to the FY 2023 Proposed Operating Budget, I would like to follow up on the issue of renewing the Interface Referral Service. At last week's meeting the Board asked for additional information. Specifically, the Board wanted a breakdown of the number of referrals and the time it takes for the referral to be made. In response to this inquiry, I received the following data from the Director of the service:

*"Dunstable – 7 referrals of which those attending preK-12th grade attended the following schools: 6 total: 1 out of district; 1 Reg. HS; 2 Reg MS. Groton- 99 referrals of which those attending preK-12th grade attended the following schools: 1 Second Nature Academy; 1 out of District' 6 Florence Roche; 4 Swallow; 16 Reg MS; 33 Reg HS; 3 Homeschooled. Groton has had a total of 99 referrals in the past contract year, which is equal to \$24,750 of service, so it wouldn't change the pricing. During the pandemic call volume has increased, and so has the acuity of cases, so our process is taking longer than in the past. As calls comes in, our referral counselors must first ensure that callers with potential risk factors for safety (e.g., suicidal ideation, self-injury, substance misuse, and relationship violence) are connected to immediate crisis resources and they also coach callers on use of these services. At this time, initial call messages are taking approximately 4-5 business days to be returned, and it is taking approximately 4-5 days business days for cases to be assigned to a referral counselor following the completion of an intake. Our process from the time of assignment to a lead counselor to closing of the case, following obtaining a match(es) is about 38 days in your community over the past year, which is about 8 days longer than usual due to the pandemic impact on provider availability.*

Based on this and the feedback we have received, it appears that continuing the service makes sense. As you know, they are looking for an increase to \$20,000 for the year between December 1, 2021 and November 30, 2022. (I had written to the Board that it was \$24,500, but that was what their actual cost was, not the proposed budget.) Select Board Members Degen and Pine had asked me to look into whether or not we could use ARPA funds to pay for the Interface Referral Service.

***Continued on next page – Over >***

**Select Board**  
**Weekly Agenda Update/Report**  
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**4. *Continued:***

My initial reaction was that these funds could not be used for this service. Upon further research and consideration, it appears that we can. At Monday's Meeting, the Board can decide on whether or not to use your gift fund (Funding from Lawrence Academy) or the ARPA funds for this purpose. The cost of the service for the next year (again, December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2022) would be as follows:

Town Budget -	\$ 8,000
GDRSD -	\$ 2,000
ARPA or Gift) -	\$10,000

ARPA Funds can be used for the next three years, while the use of the Gift Funds would be based on Lawrence Academy continuing to provide the \$15,000 grant each year. Please note that I have eliminated the \$8,000 appropriation from the Proposed FY 23 Budget. We can discuss this in more detail at Monday's meeting.

**5. Please see the update to the Select Board's Meeting Schedule through the end of the year:**

Monday, December 20, 2021	- FY 2023 Budget Update - Annual Licenses Renewal
Monday, December 27, 2021 Monday, January 3, 2022	No Meeting (Holiday) No Meeting (Holiday)
Wednesday, January 5, 2021	- Interviews with HCA Applicants (Snow date – January 6, 2021)
Monday, January 10, 2022	- Presentation of Town Manger's FY 2023 Proposed Operating Budget

**ITEMS FOR SELECT BOARD CONSIDERATION AND ACTION**

1. Both Kevin Kelly and Tom Delaney will be in attendance at Monday's meeting to update the Board on Electric Car Charging Stations, including the different kind of units and proposed locations for the installation of the Stations.
2. At last week's meeting, the Board requested that I develop questions for your interviews with the various companies interested in obtaining a Host Community Agreement with the Town of Groton. Attached are the draft questions for your review and approval.

MWH/rjb  
enclosures



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Our Tribal Council

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[Nipmuc  
Museum](#)

[Territory Map](#)

Land  
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## A Brief Look at Nipmuc History

The people the English referred to as Nipmuc, or “fresh water people” occupied the interior portion of what is now Massachusetts and parts of Rhode Island and Connecticut. The

present-day boundaries of the original homelands included all of central Massachusetts from the New Hampshire/Vermont borders and south of the Merrimac Valley southerly to include Tolland and Windham counties in Connecticut and the NW portion of Rhode Island. To the east, the homelands included the Natick/Sudbury area going west to include the Connecticut River Valley.

The people lived in scattered villages throughout the area including Wabaquasset, Quinnebaug, Quaboag, Pocumtuc, Agawam, Squawkeag, and Wachusett. Their economic and subsistence cycles consisted of hunting, gathering, planting, and harvesting in their seasons. These villages were linked together by kinship ties, trade alliances, and common enemies. They lived in wetus, which could be moved to other encampments. Often thought of as wanderers, they were instead careful planners and good stewards of the land upon which they lived.

There are scattered references throughout history to Europeans landing on the coasts of Canada, Maine and the islands nearby. In 1497, John Cabot landed on New Foundland establishing new fishing grounds for Northern Europeans. The French attempted several times to colonize the Canadian and Maine coastlines in order to capitalize on the fur trade. Deadly epidemics resulting from these encounters ravaged the Native population. Current scholars estimate a possible 80% mortality rate. Later, when the English began to settle the area, they took the vacant villages and abandoned cornfields as a sign from God that they were meant to supplant the Indians as the rightful inhabitants of the land.

(Ojibway oral history tells that a sign was given and the people knew that a terrible thing was on its way to destroy the people. Therefore, they left and traveled west to new lands taking the sacred fire with them until it was safe to return it to the homelands. They refer to the Indians in New England as the ones that stayed behind.)

The earliest known contact between Nipmucs and the English was possibly in 1621 at Sterling, MA where Nashawanon was sachem. The Nipmucs initially had friendly relationships with the Europeans. In one instance, a Wabaquasset native, Acquittimaug, walked from his home to Boston carrying corn for the starving colonists. It is estimated that there were 5,000 to 6,000 Nipmucs when the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth in 1620. The bulk of the Nipmuc population lived along the rivers and streams connected to the Blackstone, Quaboag, Nashua and Quinebaug.

In the 1640's, the Rev. John Eliot of Roxbury began preaching to the Natives of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Between 1650 and 1675, he worked to establish "praying plantations" or villages to aid in the conversion of the Indian population. He felt that by removing them from their tribal villages and creating towns for them the natives would eventually forsake their "ungodly" ways and emulate the English. In the towns, the Native people were forbidden to practice their traditional ways, wore English style clothes, lived in English style homes and attended the Puritan church. Eliot himself set up seven of the towns, known as the old praying villages, Wamesit, Nashobah, Okkokonimasit, Hassanamesit, Makunkokoag, Natick, and

Punkapoag. Nipmucs and other natives who joined these towns did so for a variety of reasons. Protection from Mohawk attacks, curiosity about English ways, economic survival, education, and the availability of food and clothing were some of the factors involved in Native people voluntarily moving to the towns. Natick was the first town and church to be established and Natives were trained there to serve in the other Indian churches. Word spread and Nipmucs further west set up seven more praying villages, known as the new praying towns. These included Manchaug, Chabanakongkomun, Maanexit, Quantisset, Wabquisset, Packachoog, and Waeuntug.

Further encroachments by the English upon Indian land increased hostilities between the Natives and the English colonists. Some of the praying Indians forewarned the English of impending war with the Wampanoag leader, Philip, son of the Massasoit. In April of 1675, John Sassamon, a Wampanoag who was an informer for the English, was found murdered. Two other Wampanoags were found guilty by the English and executed. The English blamed Philip for the murdered men and accused him of planning war against the English. Philip escaped arrest by fleeing to Pocasset where the village of his sister-in-law, Weetomoe was located. Philip sought help from the Narragansetts but was refused. He then went into Nipmuc country where many were anxious to follow him into battle. War had begun and the praying Indians chose to fight and scout for the English. In July of 1675, the Mohegan traveled to Boston and pledged their support for the English.

English colonists began voicing their fears of Indian attacks. They believed that the praying Indians would join the war on the

side of Philip. In August of 1675, the colonial government made a decision to confine all Indians to one of five plantations – Natick, Nashobah, Punkapog, Wamesit, and Hassanamesit. Any Indians found outside of these limits are subject to jail or death. This severely limited the Natives' way of life. They could no longer hunt, harvest, or trade.

The murmuring against the praying Indians continued and on October 30, 1675, the colonists forcibly removed the residents of Natick to Deer Island in Boston Harbor. By the end of the year, they were joined by the Punkapoag and the Nashobah. The Hassanamisco Indians were attacked and carried off by the Nipmuc fighting for freedom in November of 1675. That same month, the English fired upon Wamesit, killing innocent women and children. The Wamesits, besieged by both the English and Nipmuc neighbors asked the colonial government for protection and were sent to Deer Island as well. Before the end of the war, even the praying Indians that spied and fought on the English side were sent to Long Island in Boston Harbor as prisoners of the war.

Philip was eventually killed and the war ended, nearly a year later. The praying Indians were released from the islands and allowed to inhabit only certain Indian towns, Natick, Dudley (Chabanakongkom), Hassanamesit, and Wabaquasset. The Nipmucs who had resisted the English invasion were killed, sold into slavery or went into hiding, often with tribes to the north and west of Nipmuc country.

The English pushed further into Nipmuc country determined to make permanent settlements in the area. To survive, many

Nipmucs moved from the reservations and adopted English habits and dress. They still practiced seasonal mobility and itinerant trading, selling baskets, brooms, and herbs to the white settlers. Nipmuc men fought in Queen Anne's and King George's Wars in the 1700's and participated in the Abenaki resistance in the 1720's, but they fought against the Abenaki. Nipmuc men also served in the Revolutionary War on the American side. During the Civil War, Nipmucs served in both the 54th and the 55th regiments of the Massachusetts army.

MEMORANDUM FROM PRISONER OF WAR RECORDS.						No. ....				
(This blank to be used only in the arrangement of said records.)										
NAME	RANK,	ORGANIZATION.				INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM—				
		No. of Reg't.	State.	Arm of Service.	Co.	Records of—	Vol.	Page.	Vol.	Page.
Vicker	P					Ms. Roll	604	2		
Uccars Christopher	2	Mass	Ms. G			Ms. R	444	22		
						J.P.	1	371		
Captured at		186	confined at Richmond, Va.,						186	
Died in Rebel prison place and date not given, as per report of Capt. Dr.										
Admitted to Hospital at	B. Camp	1864	date	Columbia, S.C.	Nov 30/64					
where he died at	Lumberton, S.C.	1864	Reported by	Aug 10/64	Mass.					
Paroled at		186	reported at Camp Parole, Md.,						180	
Maj. 2d Lieut. Apl 29/64										
May 6-67 Register Case July 7/81 Copied by P.M.R.										
Additional Jan. 12, 19										

Increasing numbers of Nipmucs moved into the growing towns in search of work and mates. Serving in the wars caused a shortage of Nipmuc men, therefore Nipmuc women began to marry non-Natives, especially African-Americans in order to have children, continue the tribe and for economic survival. Intermarriage between Nipmuc people continued as well. Records from the 18th and 19th centuries show multiple marriages between Nipmucs from Dudley, Natick, Woodstock (Wabaquasset), and Grafton (Hassanamisco). Although they

lived further apart, Nipmucs continued to maintain kinship ties, receive annuity payments from the state, and established Nipmuc enclaves away from the traditional reservations. Nipmucs, like other Indians in MA, were considered wards of the state. Indian commissioners and guardians were appointed over them to manage their lands and debts. Many of these guardians stole from the Nipmucs by illegally selling land to pay their own debts. In 1849 and 1859, the Commonwealth commissioned a count of Indians and a report on their condition. These reports, the Bird/Briggs Report in 1849 and the 1859 Earl Report, are used to this day as evidence of continued interactions between Indians and Massachusetts.

In June of 1869, “Indians and people of color, heretofore known and called Indians” became citizens of Massachusetts through the MA Indian Enfranchisement Act. The MA legislature tried to follow Federal Reconstruction-era race policy and came to the conclusion that since there were few “pure-blooded” Indians left and since the state had always been committed to freedom for the African-American, why not the Indian? Unfortunately, the act threw open for sale Indian lands to non-Indians. Lands held in common were divided up as in the case of Dudley.

In 1871, the last of the Dudley land was sold and five of the families were placed in a tenement house on Lake Street in Webster. The rest scattered, moving with other Nipmuc families living in Woodstock, Worcester, Providence, and Hassanamisco. Worcester developed strong Indian enclaves in mainly African-American neighborhoods. Nipmuc activities became centered on the Hassanamisco Reservation. Events such as the Annual Clambake and elections on the 4th of July were times for

Nipmucs to gather and discuss tribal business. In 1886, living members and descendants of the Pegan Band of Nipmucs (the Dudley Indians) each received \$61.61 as their share of the proceeds from the sale of the Dudley reservation.

In the early 1920's, a variety of Pan-Indian movements including the Indian Council of New England and the National Algonquin Indian Council created increased opportunities for Nipmucs to practice and share traditional ways and to become politically involved in Indian issues. The Cisco family at Hassanamisco became tribal leaders and formed the Mohawk Club which met in Worcester to discuss and plan educational, cultural and social events. The name was later changed to the Hassanamisco Club with meetings held at both the reservation and in members' homes in Worcester. Tribal leaders during this time included Sarah M. Cisco, James Lemuel Cisco, and Althea Hazard.

Annual clambakes and elections continued in the late 30's with Sarah Cisco remaining in the leadership position. In 1937 and 1941, she petitioned the Massachusetts Legislature for pensions for Hassanamisco people and for the upkeep of the reservation. In 1938, she also filed a claim for the return of Lake Ripple, a man-made lake in Grafton, to the Hassanamisco people. During World War II, things were quiet in Nipmuc country. Nipmuc men went to war and the women worked in factories and raised children. After the war, community gatherings resumed. Some of the events at Hassanamisco became open to the public but meetings where tribal issues were discussed remained open to Nipmuc people only. Election Day continued with tribal members spending the entire weekend camped out on the reservation. Requests for assistance were made to the Indian Claims

Commission and the North American Indian League of Nations.



The Nipmuc Indian Chapter of Worcester formed in the 1950's amid disputes between Worcester Nipmucs and the Hassanamisco leadership. Among those active in the Nipmuc Indian Chapter of Worcester were William and Elizabeth Moffitt, Lillian Brooks King, Roswell Hazard, Mabel Hamilton, Jessie Mays, and George Wilson. The chapter was formed to provide

for the educational and cultural advancement of Nipmuc people with the hope of beginning other chapters in other cities. The split was soon mended though and tribal gatherings continued at Hassanamisco. The Annual Hassanamisco Fair continued in July, Massachusetts Indian Day was celebrated in August, and the Hassanamisco Council met regularly. In 1962, the Hassanamisco Foundation was created to ensure that the reservation would be preserved intact and that other provisions were made for the Cisco family line. Zara Cisco Brough became tribal sachem and assumed leadership responsibilities. Zara was actively involved in Grafton town politics and successfully won dredging rights to Lake Ripple for Hassanamisco. As sachem, she worked for the protection of tribal rights and the preservation of the reservation.

In 1974, the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs was created and in 1976, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts officially recognized the Hassanamisco Band of Nipmucs. Nipmucs from other family lines became more active on the Hassanamisco Council. Members of the Council of Chiefs included Walter Vickers, Joseph Vickers, Charlie Hamilton, George Cisco, Peter Silva, Sr., and Samuel Cisco. The Hassanamisco Foundation was amended to ensure that if the Cisco line ended the reservation would never leave Nipmuc hands. Zara made plans for “New Town”, a 500-acre town on what is now Grafton. She petitioned the Governor and the legislature for the state-owned land to create this Indian town but the land was eventually given to Tufts University for a veterinary school.

The Chaubunagungamaug Band, under the leadership of Edwin

Morse, formed in 1981 to revitalize the Dudley Band of Nipmucs. Land was donated to the Chaubunagungamaug for a reservation in Thompson on the original Dudley reservation. Walter Vickers was named head chief by the sachem, Zara, and the Hassanamisco Council in 1982. Later that year, he conducted the ceremony to install Edwin Morse as chief of the Chaubunagungamaug band. The Reno Report, researched and created by Zara and Dr. Stephen Reno, became the official petition for recognition in 1984.

The nineties brought much activity, both good and bad. The Nipmuc Tribal Acknowledgment Project, begun 1989, continued the important research for federal recognition and compiled a census of the tribe. In 1995, the Hassanamisco and the Chaubunagungamaug bands came together to work towards recognition thus uniting tribal members under one banner, the Nipmuc Nation. Unfortunately, the unification did not last long. In 1995, the Chaubunagungamaug band split off from the Nipmuc Nation to attempt federal recognition on its own. The split was due to diverse factors including the division of power and tribal roll guidelines. Several Nipmuc organizations were founded during the nineties. The Nipmuc Indian Association of Connecticut was founded by Joan Luster to provide educational, cultural and traditional services to CT Nipmucs. Cheryl Stedler began publishing the Nipmucspokhe newsletter in 1994 to keep tribal members everywhere informed. In 1997, the Nipmuc Women's Health Coalition, headed by Liz Coldwind Kiser, was formed to educate and inform Nipmuc women and their families about health prevention, healthy practices, and traditional healing. To assist the tribe in economic and community development, the Nipmuc Indian Development Corporation was

created in 1999 by a group of concerned Nipmuc people.

Despite the hardship and multiple setbacks, the Nipmuc Nation – Hassanamisco band in January of 2001 received a positive preliminary finding on federal acknowledgment.

– CTH

Nipmuc Nation Tribal Council Inc.  
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South Grafton, MA 01560  
+1 (774) 317-9138



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## Mark Haddad

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**From:** Town of Groton <mchiasson@townofgroton.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 11:20 AM  
**To:** Select Board  
**Subject:** New Committee Interest Form Entry

**Name**

Joan Parker-Roach

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**Phone Number**

978-448-2690

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**Email**

[joni@noagallery.com](mailto:joni@noagallery.com)

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**What Committee Are You Interested In Joining?**

The Economic & Community Development Program

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**Please give us a brief explanation of why you are interested**

I am honored to be asked to join your new board. Owning NOA Gallery for almost 20 years, I have been very involved in helping to support the arts and make the center of Groton an 'arts destination' for many many years. After all, Groton HAS been a cultural destination for hundreds of years! I am delighted with what has been happening in Groton. How blessed was NOA when The Groton Inn opened and they asked us to move NOA into the inn as a working gallery. Then the new Groton Hill Music Center invited us to partner with and having a NOA Gallery there as well, I am not only interested as a long-

time resident of our beautiful town center but I am very excited to help brainstorm ideas with this board. I hope to bring ideas and total support of the arts to it and hope to be considered to join you all. Thank you for considering me.

Sent from [Town of Groton](#)

## Dawn Dunbar

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**From:** Town of Groton <mchiasson@townofgroton.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2021 7:30 PM  
**To:** Select Board  
**Subject:** New Committee Interest Form Entry

**Name**

Julie Sutherland Platt

**Phone Number**

9788571484

**Email**

juliefsp@verizon.net

**What Committee Are You Interested In Joining?**

Destination Groton

**Please give us a brief explanation of why you are interested**

I am a resident of Groton and I have been volunteering to help create and establish the Groton Visitor Center located at Prescott Community Center. I anticipate the new Groton Hills Music Center will bring changes to Groton and I believe we can work together to be proactive in our preparation for new visitors, business and commerce.

## Dawn Dunbar

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**From:** Town of Groton <mchiasson@townofgroton.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 9, 2021 12:44 PM  
**To:** Select Board  
**Subject:** New Committee Interest Form Entry

**Name**

Jeff Gordon

**Phone Number**

508-864-7487

**Email**

[jeff@EXITassurance.com](mailto:jeff@EXITassurance.com)

**What Committee Are You Interested In Joining?**

Destination Groton Committee

**Please give us a brief explanation of why you are interested**

As the President of the Groton Business Association, I want to represent our organization.

Sent from [Town of Groton](#)

## Mark Haddad

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**From:** Town of Groton <mchiasson@townofgroton.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:19 PM  
**To:** Select Board  
**Subject:** New Committee Interest Form Entry

**Name**

Mairi Elliott

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**Phone Number**

978-727-4242

---

**Email**

[mairi@kw.com](mailto:mairi@kw.com)

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**What Committee Are You Interested In Joining?**

Destination Groton

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**Please give us a brief explanation of why you are interested**

As a life long resident (left for about 10 years) of Groton, I have a deep appreciation for the rural and yet accessible nature of our Town. I am now a local residential Realtor with Keller Williams and have a connection to who is looking at Groton as a prospective Town to move to or even visit. I have a vested interest in making sure our town grows reasonably to accommodate newcomers but also keeps the rural small town feel we all know and love so much. Both my husband and I are lifelong residents and we feel strongly

about both growth and tradition being upheld and I would love to lend my expertise in Groton to this committee.

Sent from Town of Groton

## Dawn Dunbar

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**From:** Town of Groton <mchiasson@townofgroton.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 26, 2021 1:07 PM  
**To:** Select Board  
**Subject:** New Committee Interest Form Entry

**Name**

Greg Sheldon

**Phone Number**

978-448-8316

**Email**

[gregory.m.sheldon@gmail.com](mailto:gregory.m.sheldon@gmail.com)

**What Committee Are You Interested In Joining?**

Destination Groton Committee

**Please give us a brief explanation of why you are interested**

I am interested in being considered for appointment to the Destination Groton Committee because I believe in Groton's future. I believe in engaging all Groton stakeholders in a conversation to better prepare for the challenges and the opportunities that future holds. I would bring to this task my professional experience in economic and community development as well as my passion for Groton's history, charm and future quality of life.

## Dawn Dunbar

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**From:** Town of Groton <mchiasson@townofgroton.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 22, 2021 12:05 PM  
**To:** Select Board  
**Subject:** New Committee Interest Form Entry

**Name**

Brenda Perreault

**Phone Number**

978-793-1665

**Email**

[kcdy24@outlook.com](mailto:kcdy24@outlook.com)

**What Committee Are You Interested In Joining?**

Destination Groton

**Please give us a brief explanation of why you are interested**

The town of Groton has a unique opportunity to transform to a destination community. I believe that the committee needs 'business-friendly' advocates who are also sensitive to the history and culture of the town as well as the physical environment. My family has resided in Groton since the early 1900's and I have been a resident since 2015. I would bring a practical business acumen to the committee as well as a fresh perspective. Thank you for consideration.

**Lauren Marcello**

15 Mount View Drive , Cumberland, RI 02864  
401-480-0842 | laurenmarcell@gmail.com

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November 15, 2021

The Groton Center  
163 W Main St,  
Groton, MA 01450

Ms. Shaheen,

I am applying for the Community Engagement Specialist position. I graduated from Merrimack College with a Masters of Education in Community Engagement in May of 2020. Similar to many, I struggled to find a job in my desired field but have been extremely lucky to find work that has been rewarding in its own way working with military youth. However, due to this position being a contract position it is not permanent and there has been some uncertainty about the position being downsized in the future. I have decided to begin the search again to find a job working with older adults which has become a passion of mine.

I have been lucky enough to have multiple opportunities to work with older adults both in my personal and professional life. My maternal grandparents have always played a very large role in my life. They were always the people I knew I could rely on no matter what was happening. As much of a support as they have been in my life I have been able to see who supports them in theirs. One support they have used is their local senior center. My grandma has been a regular at their senior center for years participating in different fitness classes, socializing with other locals, and adding to her circle of friends. Covid-19 proved how much the center has impacted their lives. Her return to the center as it has reopened has brought back the grandmother that I know and love from the one who was down and unsure of what to do with herself during the pandemic. The structure and purpose that the center provides to her life is truly instrumental to her happiness.

I have been able to see this same impact that community centers provide for other older adults in my professional life. I was first introduced to this experience as I worked member services in high school and college at a YMCA where I got to watch a group of older adults who would come in daily for hours to work out but instead socialized for the majority of their visits. I got to see and participate in the joy that those few hours a day being outside of their houses gave them. Retirement is often looked at as a goal and aspiration but often is without purpose. Community centers can be a beacon of hope to resolve this issue. I would love to be able to be part of this hope by providing activities for older adults that will allow them to regain some of that purpose.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Marcello

## **Lauren Marcello**

15 Mount View Drive , Cumberland, RI 02864  
401-480-0842 | laurenmarcell@gmail.com

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### **EDUCATION**

#### **Merrimack College, North Andover, MA**

*Masters of Education in Community Engagement*

*Bachelor of Arts in Human Development and Human Services and Communication Studies*

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### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

#### **Massachusetts National Guard, Wellesley, MA**

*Child and Youth Program Coordinator- Contractor; December 2020- Present*

- Plan and run events for military youth to assist in building resilience among military families.

#### **Merrimack Valley YMCA, Andover, MA**

*Lifeguard and Swim Instructor; October 2018- Present*

*Youth and Family Program Intern, January 2019- May 2019*

- Provide support to the Youth and Family Program Director in a development capacity.

#### **The YMCA of Pawtucket, RI: MacColl YMCA, Lincoln, RI**

*Site Coordinator; September 2020- December 2020*

- Supervise Blackstone Valley Preparatory after school and virtual school days.
- Manage staffing for daily care and oversee proper Covid-19 regulations.
- Plan daily activities for children participating in the program.

#### **Massachusetts National Guard, Wellesley, MA**

*Temporary Child and Youth Program Coordinator- Contractor; August 2020- September 11, 2020*

- Assist Lead Child and Youth Program Coordinator organize and execute Camp in a Box program.
- Help organize materials for Yellow Ribbon events.

#### **Beverley Council on Aging, Beverley, MA**

*Community Engagement Graduate Fellow, August 2019- May 2020*

- Improve engagement of members in programs through direct marketing.
  - Create and run intergenerational programs for members with local community partners.
  - Assist Assistant Director and Activities Coordinator in daily operations.
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### **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

#### **Theta Phi Alpha Fraternity, Merrimack College**

*Philanthropy Chairman, January 2018 - December 2018*

- Plan all philanthropic events to work towards our national philanthropy of hunger and homelessness.

#### **Young Athletes Program, Merrimack College**

*Volunteer Coach, September 2017- December 2018*

**QUESTIONS FOR HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT INTERVIEWS:**

1. Please describe your background and experience with marijuana businesses.
2. Why have you selected Groton?
3. Please explain the number of licenses you have and what type (recreational or medical) of license you hold and the locations of the licenses.
4. Do you plan on having a medical component to your business operation, or is it purely recreational?
5. Please explain the terms and location of any lease agreement you have to establish a Recreational Marijuana Facility in the Town of Groton.
6. What is your understanding of Groton's Zoning Bylaw and Special Permit Process?
7. Please explain your understanding of the Cannabis Control Commission Process and what your anticipated timeline for opening a facility in Groton.
8. Please explain your financial status and your ability to open a facility.
9. Please describe your security protocols and how you protect against underage entry to your facility.
10. What steps will you take to prevent your products from making their way into children's or teenagers' hands? Will you use child-proof packaging? What are the CCC regulations about this?
11. Do you have any local connections here in Groton?
12. What is your commitment to hiring local residents and your commitment to minority and LGBTQ communities?
13. What variety of products do you plan on offering?
14. Why should the Board choose you?

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2021  
UN-APPROVED**

**SB Members Present:** Rebecca H. Pine, Chair; Alison S. Manugian, Vice Chair; Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk; Joshua A. Degen, Member; John F. Reilly, Member (Via Zoom)

**Also Present:** Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant (Via Zoom)

Ms. Pine called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and reviewed the agenda.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

1. Mr. Haddad said that they had updated the Board's Infectious Disease Protocols Policy to reflect the Mandatory COVID- 19 vaccination requirement and requiring employees to report a close contact with anyone infected with COVID-19. He reviewed the policy updates that were being proposed. Mr. Degen asked how boosters were going to be addressed. Mr. Haddad said that he was not bringing that forward at this time. He said he was not ready to take that next step yet. Ms. Pine said that boosters were being recommended but people needed to wait until 6 months after the second vaccine to get a booster. Ms. Manugian asked if they could require that people get the booster one month after their 6 months was up. Mr. Haddad said that they could but asked the Board to hold off and have the discussion again until January.

Mr. Haddad respectfully requested that the Board approve this amended Policy.

*Mr. Cunningham moved to adopt the Infectious Disease Protocol Policy as presented. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Degen-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye*

2. Mr. Haddad said that with regard to the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, they had completed the reviews with all Departments and Boards. He said that the budget reviews were excellent and that he could not be happier with the performance of their excellent Department Heads. He said that they were out of balance still but were working on balancing the budget.

Mr. Haddad said that one issue that had come up with the Interface Mental Health Referral Services. He said that two years ago, he eliminated funding for the Interface Council (the total cost for the service at that time was \$12,000, which Groton paid \$8,000 and the GDRSD and Town of Dunstable paid \$2,000 each). He said that the Board received concerns from several residents and the Board decided to restore the funding by seeking a reserve fund transfer. He said that he was informed last week that the new cost of the service had increased from \$12,000 to \$20,000. Mr. Haddad said that in addition, he was told that the Town of Dunstable had decided to no longer participate in this program and would not be contributing \$2,000 for the program. He said that in order to meet this year's cost of \$20,000, they would need to come up with an additional \$10,000 in FY 22 and then increase the FY 23 budget. Mr. Haddad said that due to the increase and the fact that Dunstable no longer wanted to participate, he was inclined to withdraw from the service due to the increase cost and budgetary increase. Mr. Haddad said that one solution was to use money from the Lawrence Academy Gift Account to fund this for the next year. Mr. Degen said he would like to know how many Groton residents used the services so that they could better negotiate the fees now that Dunstable has decided to withdraw. Ms. Manugian asked if Mr. Haddad knew how long it took the referral to be made. Mr. Haddad said that he would have to find that out. Ms. Pine said that it seemed like it was a well-used service and didn't think just cutting it off was good for the residents of the Town. Ms. Manugian said that she needed to lot more information adding she did not think from personal experience that the service was not what she expected.

**TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING CONTINUATION**

Principal Assistant Assessor Megan Foster and Board of Assessor Member Mr. Don Black were present.

*Mr. Degen moved to re-open the public hearing. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Degen-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye*

Ms. Foster explained the purpose for the tax classification hearing and the action that would be required by the Board that evening. Ms. Foster reviewed some tables she provided the Board in their packet. She said that new growth was certified in

\$19,751,110 in assessed value or a new growth value of \$347,620. Ms. Foster said that the town was 94% residential and 6% commercial/industrial/personal property. She said that this was consistent with previous years. Ms. Foster said that they have come to a single tax rate of \$17.19 and explained the calculation. She said that a factor of 1 would result in the taxation of all property at the same single tax rate. Ms. Foster showed the difference between the single tax rate, split rate with CIP of 125% and max split rate at 150%.

Ms. Foster reviewed a small commercial exemption option that the Board may choose to adopt which would provide a 10% exemption to small commercial businesses that qualify. Mr. Haddad said that the Board had not voted to adopt this in the past.

Mr. Haddad said that he was recommending that the Board adopt a single tax rate with no residential or commercial exemptions.

*Mr. Degen moved that the Board use the factor of 1 and vote a single tax rate in the Town of Groton at a tax rate of \$17.19. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion.*

Ms. Pine asked what an arm's length transaction was and what personal property meant. Mr. Haddad said that if you take a commercial building and shake everything out of it, that was considered personal property.

*Roll Call: Pine-aye; Degen-aye; Manugian-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye*

*Mr. Degen moved that they not adopt a residential or small business commercial exemption. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Degen-aye; Manugian-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye*

*Mr. Degen moved to close the public hearing. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Degen-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye; Manugian-aye*

*Mr. Degen moved that the Board reaffirm the previous 2 motions. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Degen-aye; Manugian-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye*

#### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - CONTINUED**

3. Mr. Haddad said that they had received five Letters of Interest in response to their Request for Letters of Interest from firms interested in entering into a Host Community Agreement with the Town of Groton for a Recreation Marijuana License. He said that letters of Interest were received from the following firms:

- Noble Manna Farms, Inc.
- N.E. Craft Cultivators
- BeWell
- United Cultivation
- The Stories Company

Mr. Haddad said he believed all of these proposals were well done and complied with the Request for Letters of Interest that they issued. He said he pleased with the result. Mr. Haddad said that he asked Town Counsel for any advice on how to proceed. He recommended that they set up interviews with the 5 applicants and then make an informed decision based on their presentation in the public meeting. Mr. Haddad said that they could grant host agreements with all firms but advised against that. He said that he thought it could get messy and cost the applicants money even if they might not get the license from the Town. He said that they had 4 licenses to give out but their zoning was too restrictive for it at this time.

Mr. Degen said he thought they should interview each of the applicants to get a feel for them and their business. Mr. Haddad suggested setting up the interviews for January for a non-Select Board meeting night. Ms. Pine said that she didn't think it was worth their time to interview any firm that didn't have a lease agreement. Mr. Haddad said he agreed and needed to talk that out. Ms. Pine asked also for a letter from the landlord or seller that they understood there was a marijuana business being proposed for a particular space. Mr. Cunningham said he didn't mind interviewing all of them especially if a change to zoning was going to be proposed. Ms. Pine said that they would need to bring a change to zoning to the Spring Town Meeting. Mr. Haddad said that they would be able to start the process but wouldn't be able to get though the Planning Board until they had the proper zoning in place. Mr. Haddad said that he was looking at an additional meeting the second week of January to hold these interviews.

There was a brief discussion about outreach meetings and whether the Board should hold them on top of the applicants having to hold their own outreach meetings. The Board decided to meet on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 5pm with a snow date of January 6<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

#### **SELECT BOARD ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

1. Mr. Haddad said that for the past month or so, they had advertised for interested citizens to serve on the Destination Groton Committee. He said that the Charge of the Committee called for a five-member Committee. He said that they had received six Committee Interest Forms from the following individuals: Joan Parker-Roach, Julie Platt, Jeff Gordon, Mairi Elliot, Greg Sheldon, and Brenda Perreault. Mr. Haddad said that he wanted to discuss how the Board wanted to determine who/how to appoint this Committee.

Ms. Manugian asked if they could amend the charge to include all 6 applicants. Mr. Haddad said that they could but said he recommended leaving it at 5. Ms. Pine said she was in favor of appointing Greg Sheldon and Jeff Gordon as they had been integral leaders on the Destination Groton study. Ms. Manugian said that she would like to interview them all. Mr. Degen agreed with Ms. Manugian adding he didn't want to show preferential treatment. Mr. Haddad said that he would add this to next week's agenda. Mr. Reilly said that he also agreed they should interview all candidates.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **ON-GOING ISSUES**

Mr. Haddad said he had no updates to the on-going issues.

Ms. Pine said that they were having a small ceremony at Surrenden Farm next Monday night for the CPC Chair to present a large check to the Town for the final Surrenden Farm debt payment. She invited Board members to attend adding the ceremony was being held at 3:45pm on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### **MINUTES**

*Mr. Degen moved to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of November 22, 2021 as written. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Degen-aye; Reilly-aye; Cunningham-aye*

Ms. Pine adjourned the meeting at 8:07pm.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk

respectfully submitted:  
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Date Approved: