

Vicki Smith Candidate Statement:

I have lived in Lyme for 35 years: for one year in Skunk Hollow on Baker Hill Road and for the rest of the time in two different homes on Flint Hill Road and now on Market Street. I choose to live in Lyme because it is a small town and I could live close to nature with neighbors who also appreciate small town living and access to the woods and trails, streams and ponds. My children were raised here because it is a safe place and really fun place to be kid. Now that they have started lives of their own, I am facing what many of you face: how to afford to stay in Lyme and to support the high standard of education to which children in Lyme have always been privileged.

I am very familiar with the strengths and limitations of local planning and local regulatory systems. I have worked as a planner since 1984 first in the north country for the 50 northernmost towns in NH then for the 31 towns in the Upper Valley when our regional planning commission was a bi-state region. I have worked in towns bigger than Lyme and many that are smaller than Lyme. I currently work for the Town of Hanover assisting the Planning Board and Conservation Commission. I worked for 15 years for the Lyme Planning Board in a role similar to David Robbins' position, served for 3 years as an alternate to the Planning Board and now am finishing up a fourth term as a full member of the Board.

I support diversity in housing stock, protection of open space and the green infrastructure that provides us with clean air, clean water, wild creatures in our back yards, and places from which to draw inspiration, and considered, slow growth, organic growth if you will, that it can be supported by the land on which it is placed and by the communities' services and facilities.

Both the enjoyment I experience from living in Lyme and my professional interest in commonsense land use in a small town setting, motivate me to spend my Thursday nights with the Planning Board looking at subdivisions and site plans and working on realistic and thoughtful plans for Lyme's future.

In addition to my employment for 15 years with the Lyme Planning Board and service as an alternate and full member to the Planning Board for 13 years, I was a member of the Lyme Hill and Valley Association, the Crossroads Academy Board of Directors for 6 years and the Lyme Brownie Troop co-leader for 3 years. I also work part time for the Lyme Foundation.

If you would like to contact me to ask specific questions, my telephone number is listed in the phone book and I would be happy to answer your questions.

**Eric Furstenberg Candidate Statement:
Planning Board**

Dear Lyme,

I am finishing my 7th year on the planning board and I look forward to serving the town for three more years. Previously I volunteered on the budget committee, at the school, and as a ski coach. Before moving to Lyme I worked for many years as an economics professor and now split

my time between woodworking, teaching economics at Dartmouth, and spending time with my children.

My family and I have lived on Flint Hill Rd for 11 years, and my parents have lived on Acorn Hill for 30 years. My wife grew up in Orford and her family still lives there. We have a long and deep connection to small New Hampshire towns. There are many things that make Lyme a great place to live: nature and wildlife, scenic beauty, wilderness, historic town common, quality school, good neighbors, and recreational opportunities. These are some of the reasons my family chose to live here.

In terms of planning and zoning, I support slow and carefully planned development around the historic town centers, protection of natural and agricultural resources, protection of wildlife and wilderness, and preservation of outdoor recreational activities. Numerous studies have shown negative effects of large scale development on town finances for a small town such as Lyme. Thoughtful modernization of the zoning laws, such as Lyme's new senior housing rules, allow for new development to meet the needs of the population without overwhelming town services. Furthermore, promoting development around the historic town centers maintains the vibrancy of these areas and protects against sprawl and degradation of agricultural and wilderness areas.

Lastly, consistent with protection of natural and wilderness areas, I am a strong supporter of sustainable energy sources. As much as possible I believe the zoning laws should promote and encourage thoughtful use of low impact sustainable energy sources.

Thank you for your time and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

**Jim Komarmi Candidate Statement:
School Board**

My name is Jim Komarmi. I live downtown in the Perkins House (which has been renamed the Change House within our home by our five old) with my wife, three children, three sheep, seven chickens and one overly friendly cat. In my spare time I enjoy home projects, biking, and skiing.

I received my undergraduate degree in International Business from SUNY Plattsburgh and earned my MBA from The University of Vermont. With 10 years of experience in (private) education working for Green Mountain Valley School ski academy, I am familiar with many of the challenges in the academic environment both from an administrative point and from teaching Economics to second semester seniors.

I continue to work with junior athletes, parents and coaches, all who have competing and conflicting interests as the Race Department and Program Director for Mad River Glen Cooperative and Mad River Ski Club. In the warmer months, I own and operate EventSet, an event sourcing and infrastructure business which serves greater New England.

Marci O'Keefe Candidate Statement:
Tax Collector

Hello Lyme voters! My name is Marci O'Keefe and I am hoping to serve Lyme as our next Tax Collector

Why should you vote for me?

- I have held the position of Lyme Tax Collector in the past. In 2018, the position was vacant midterm after the passing of our long time Tax Collector, Joanne Colburn. I interviewed for and was appointed by the Select Board to be the interim Tax Collector
- I successfully completed training with BMSI, the financial software used by the town, and am proficient on the system so it would be a smooth and efficient transition for the town
- I am committed to learning and have taken an accounting class to help further my understanding and knowledge of accounting practices needed to be successful in the role of Tax Collector
- I am detailed oriented and have exceptional customer service and communications skills

A little more about me.....

I grew up in Hanover Center and moved to Lyme with my husband 26 years ago. We have one adult son who attended Lyme School, went on to attend Thetford Academy and is now self-employed and serving Lyme and surrounding towns. In addition to my day job I am currently the bookkeeper for his business.

I have been in the medical field for most of my professional career, 28 of those years have been at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. In addition to my clinical skills and knowledge, I spent a number of years as the Administrative Supervisor for the Department of Ophthalmology where I was responsible for departmental accounts payable, tracking and submitting reimbursements for Provider Medical Education Fund accounts.

I feel a strong connection with our town and have served on the Lyme Recreation Committee and Lyme Independence Day Committee. I have also helped coach Lyme Girls Basketball and have been a substitute teacher at the Lyme Nursery School.

I would be honored to serve the town again as the next Tax Collector.

Please come out and vote on Tuesday March 8th

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 603-359-2326 or marcidawn17@gmail.com

Stephen Castellani Candidate Statement:
Tax Collector

Greetings and salutations Lyme voters,

My name is Stephen Castellani and I am running for the position of Tax Collector for the marvelous Town of Lyme. While I am a recent “newcomer” to the town, I am certainly no stranger to Lyme. I grew up spending my summers here visiting my grandmother (of blessed memory) as well as my aunt and uncle.

To give some background on myself, I previously worked as an appraiser for the Teller County Assessor’s Office in Colorado. As such, I dealt directly with property owners, both during the initial assessment of their property, and after the values had been determined and tax bills sent out. Quoting the letter of reference the Assessor provided me upon my departure, I “routinely handled stressful situations with disgruntled taxpayers with tact, empathy and diplomacy to diffuse hostile situations.” These qualities are ones that I will most certainly bring with me to the office of Tax Collector as well.

Additionally, I had to learn new, complex computer programs that are unique to property valuation. The same is applicable for the role I will play as Tax Collector. I firmly believe I can learn the collection software in a very short window of time, thereby making the transition from the former collector quick and efficient.

Secondly, while I was working at the Assessor’s office, I continued to expand my knowledge and skills. By taking courses offered through both the Colorado Department of Property Taxation (DPT) as well as during the annual Colorado Association of Tax Appraisers’ (CATA) conference. I am highly motivated to learn new skills and am excited by the prospect of learning the functions and role of Tax Collector.

Finally, I was not just an attendee at the CATA, but was an active member of the board, having been twice elected to a position by a vote of the membership.

I will bring the following attributes to the position of tax collector: integrity, service, honor, integrity, compassion and understanding.

Outside of my professional experience, I am a member of American Legion post 80 here in Lyme, a post that my grandfather (of blessed memory) was also an active member of. I am the historian for the American Legion’s 6th district here in New Hampshire, of which post 80 proud to be part of. I am also a volunteer on the Lyme Fire Department.

With my commitment to these ventures within the Town of Lyme, I hope to demonstrate that I have a strong desire to serve this community. Like my grandparents, mother, aunt and uncle before me, I hope to serve this community and give back to a town that has given me so much happiness, love, joy, and wonderful memories.

If you should have any questions you may reach out to me at 795-4433 or email me at stephencastellani@hotmail.com.

Thank you for your support, and please come out to vote on March 8th.

**Meg Lysy Candidate Statement:
Lyme Library Trustees**

Dear Lyme,

My name is Meg Lysy and I live on Pout Pond Lane with my husband David, my ten-year-old twins Hunter and Mairaed, and our Newfoundland Bear. I initially moved to the Upper Valley when I attended Dartmouth in the mid-1990s and returned to the area in 2015 to take a job in Alumni Relations at Dartmouth. Prior to returning to the Upper Valley, I lived in Boston, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. and in each location, I took advantage of the local library. As a child, my parents' friends would comment that they never saw me without a book in my hand, and when they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, I would always answer without pause, "a librarian!" I have found a career in education that feeds into the same love of learning that fueled my passion to be a librarian, and I am thrilled that I will be able to be in a leadership position on a library board.

When we moved to Lyme, I was immediately taken by the Converse Free Library and its librarians and patrons. The beautiful, but cozy, living room with the coffee station provided by Friends of Lyme Library captured my attention, and many a Saturday morning you have seen me there with a book, a cup of coffee, and my children.

My twins were four when we moved to Lyme, and they have thrived while taking advantage of the library programming. As tots, they never missed story time with Miss Judy and continue to enjoy movie nights, family maker nights, the summer reading program, and, of course, the legendary Stuffy Sleepover!

The Birthday Book Club allows my children to feel a sense of ownership of the library collection and they always proudly bring home their birthday book to show off to the family. And I have enjoyed seeing my children fundraise for Blisters for Books and the awesome generosity of my neighbors on Pout Pond Lane. And back to school wouldn't be the same without the end of summer reading book challenge celebration at the library.

I am interested in supporting the library, our community, and our children as they learn to love and respect a town treasure like the Converse Free Library. Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy.

**Melanie Isett Candidate Statement:
Library Trustees**

Dear Lyme Community,

My name is Melanie Isett and I am a candidate for the Library Trustee position. Our family has lived in Lyme since 2012 and we reside on Baker Hill Road with two children, Natalie (9) and William (5).

For 86 years, the Converse Free Library has welcomed Lyme residents to learn and grow. The first two books I read when we moved to the community were "Lyme, NH: Patterns and Pieces"

and "Images of America: Lyme." I'm deeply fascinated by local history and understanding the story of our surroundings. I particularly enjoy the historical photos featured as screensavers in the Converse Free Library, a reminder to its patrons of how much has, and hasn't, changed in our community.

Just this past January, the Converse Free Library reached an all-time circulation record. As both the community and our family increase the number of materials we borrow, I have an overwhelming desire to give back to the Converse Free Library through both fundraising and as a Trustee. You'll find recent photos of my passion for the Library on its Instagram page as the enthusiastic cheerleader and cowbell ringer on the Lyme Common during the Blisters for Books fundraising program.

In addition to my enthusiasm and appreciation for the Converse Free Library, I bring to the Trustee position my experience as a business owner. I launched an e-commerce website from our Lyme home in 2014, then held office space in both the One Lyme Common and Lyme Creamery buildings before outgrowing the space and relocating the business to Lebanon. I've appreciated the ability to utilize the Library's internet access when our service was often unreliable, as well as appreciation for Sidney Converse's legacy of the Creamery (and thereafter for funding the namesake Library!) for paving the way in the early years of my business. As the business owner, I've managed all aspects of the business such as payroll, expenses, hiring, strategic planning and marketing which I believe will be useful in the Trustee role.