

# Candidate Statements

**Mark Schiffman**

**Candidate for Lyme Town Moderator and School District Moderator**

Now in my 27th year in Lyme, I continue to look for ways to give back and play an active role in town. Through serving as moderator, I try to help the whole community continue to work together to make this a great place to live. I want to make sure that everyone in Lyme feels like their voice is being heard – whether that means speaking up at town meeting, sharing thoughts via email, or casting votes.

Having almost completed my first term as Town Moderator, I now fully understand that “Town Meeting” is just the piece of the iceberg that sticks up above the surface. The largest part of the Moderator position really is serving in conjunction with the Town Clerk to organize and oversee all the elections held in Lyme. It’s a ton of work, but also a true pleasure to recruit, organize, and work alongside the many volunteers it takes to run elections here in Lyme.

As for the Town Meeting part of it, in my “day job,” I have often served as a facilitator helping companies and non-profits develop strategic plans and plans around communications. A big piece of that is trying to get a broad range of stakeholders involved and on board, and I try to apply those lessons to my efforts for the Town.

And this year, with Bill Waste stepping down as School District Moderator – after 27 years in that role, 15 of which he was also Town Moderator – I made a 4:45pm Friday, decision to run for that position as well, to at least keep the seat warm for a year or more. As a former member of the school board and town budget committee, I have a fairly strong grasp on the process that goes into what gets voted on at School District Meeting, and I hope I can help the citizens of Lyme better understand and feel comfortable discussing the most significant expenditure we make as a town.

**Phil Kinsler**

**Candidate for Selectboard**

So, why am I running for Selectboard? Well, one answer is that I enjoy this type of work, and have a history of being pretty good at it.

Lyme is a nice community that also has significant issues:

- A very restricted tax base that is hard to expand, leading to higher taxes for all.
- Lack of attainable housing for persons at average income levels.
- A school budget growing at twice the rate of inflation with no current ability to spread costs more broadly.
- A need for a government that listens to all community members and that is available to hear input.
- A need for long range planning for hard to maintain roads, culverts, and other infrastructure.

I don't promise I can solve all these, but I'd like to work towards solutions.

Some years ago neighbors asked me to become involved in town government. Since that time I've served on the Library Board, as Chair of the Trustees of the Trust Funds, and as a member of the Budget Committee. For about two years I've been attending Selectboard meetings to learn, identify issues, make useful suggestions when I can. I've also been meeting with numbers of concerned citizens.

I have a lot of administrative experience. During my professional career I served as President of the New Hampshire Psychological Association, Chair of the NH Psychology and Mental Health Professions Licensing Board, and as President of the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation. Each job required balancing needs, wants, and resources, which are important Selectboard roles.

Should you choose me for Selectboard, I will use these skills to the best of my ability to serve Lyme well.

### **Joseph Gerakos**

#### **Candidate for Trustee of the Trust Funds**

I'm Joseph Gerakos and am running for Trustee of the Trust Funds. My wife, Rachel Cherington, and I moved to Lyme (Pinnacle) in October from Piermont. For the past 10 years, I have been a professor at the Tuck School, where I teach accounting & finance and research financial markets (including asset management). With respect to serving the community, I have been on the Board of the New Hampshire Community Loan Fund since 2020 and served on Piermont's Planning Board from 2020 to 2023. My academic background and experience---including financial planning, investment policies & management, and performance evaluation---fit well

with the responsibilities of the Trustee of the Trust Funds. If elected, my focus will be on stewarding the trusts for the benefit of current and future generations.

Regards,

Joseph

**Hebe Quinton**

**Candidate for Budget Committee**

I have lived in Lyme for over 35 years, both of our kids were born and educated here and are now happy and productive adults.

In my career as a data scientist at Dartmouth Medical School and DHMC, I analyzed large amounts of data to create programs that improved results for patients receiving medical care for heart disease and cystic fibrosis in northern New England, and then nationally and internationally.

I am rather good at making sense out of raw numbers, turning data into information, so I would like to support the town by applying my talents to the town budget and creating a plan for the future.