

Brookline PAX *Campaign Committee*

70 Francis Street, Brookline MA 02446
www.BrooklinePAX.org

*think globally * act locally * think globally * act locally * think globally * act locally*

We commend you for standing as a 2010 candidate for office in Brookline. As you may know, for almost 50 years Brookline PAX has been an organization of progressives who actively participate in Town politics. For information concerning the issues we consider important, see the reverse side and our Website.

We endorse candidates for local office. Our list of endorsees is mailed to more than 1,000 frequent voters and advertised in the Brookline TAB. In some precincts it is also distributed door-to-door and/or at the polls. And of course the word gets passed around.

Our endorsement questionnaire is enclosed. However, if you can, we prefer that you download it from www.BrooklinePAX.org and **submit it by e-mail**.

Candidates for town-wide offices are asked to respond at length on a separate sheet to question #1 (Why are you running for this office?), including (a) your view of the challenges ahead for the office you seek and (b) your approach to, and qualifications for, addressing them.

If you wish to be considered for PAX endorsement, we must receive your completed questionnaire by **Monday, March 29**. (Absolute deadline for **late-filing candidates**: noon on Wednesday, March 31.)

If you are completing it **by hand**, return it to **Gary Jones, 70 Francis Street, Brookline MA 02446** (near Lawrence School). Leave hand-delivered questionnaires in the basket on the front porch.

If you are submitting it by **e-mail**, put your name and office (e.g. "TMM-4") in the subject line and send it to

garymarsh1@earthlink.net and **frank.farlow@verizon.net**

PAX makes its endorsement decisions based in large part on your responses. If you have established a history as a local office holder or through other activities in town, your public record will also be given considerable weight.

The questionnaire is lengthy, but we hope you will understand that this is because we take endorsements seriously. Please note that we are interested, especially where indicated, in any *history of involvement* you may have regarding the various issues – not just your current views and beliefs. This might include membership in interest groups, past support for particular candidates, or any past activity, here or elsewhere (e.g., how you voted in Town Meeting) concerning the issue in question.

Regardless whether you receive the PAX endorsement, we greatly appreciate your civic spirit and willingness to participate as an elected official in Town affairs. For additional information about our endorsement process, you may call co-chair Frank Farlow at 232-9654 up to 10 p.m..

Finally, to learn more about Brookline PAX and meet informally with some of its members and endorsees, please join us for our **CAMPAIGN KICKOFF PARTY on Sunday, April 11, 4:00-5:30 at 63 Buckminster Road**, the home of Judy Lieberman and Ed Greer!

Gary Jones, Election Committee (617-731-1611) Frank Farlow, Co-chair (617-232-9654)

BROOKLINE PAX ACTIVELY SUPPORTS

Public Education – We are strongly committed to public education, from early childhood through graduate school, including comprehensive curricula, fair and tax-based funding, supporting teachers and their unions, and high standards and testing without overly high stakes.

Government Services – We support sustained state and local investment in quality municipal services such as police, fire protection, public health, libraries, schools, parks, recreation, and public works, as well as state services such as social programs, transportation and environmental protection. PAX and its endorsed candidates pursue policies of support for basic human needs, including healthcare for all, affordable housing and services for both children and senior citizens.

Public Employees and Organized Labor – We stand up for fair labor practices and for policies that show respect for the dedicated people whose competence and commitment make Brookline and this Commonwealth work.

Respect for the Environment – PAX supports aggressive action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other forms of toxic emissions into our air and water; energy policies that are “green”, sustainable and economically just; the maintenance and enhancement of green spaces everywhere; and sound environmental regulation to ensure that these goals will be achieved.

Diversity, Social Justice, and Peace – We work to preserve ethnic and economic diversity and to increase social and economic justice for all, through affordable housing, universal healthcare, and all fundamental civil rights and liberties. We defend the human rights of all people – regardless of ethnicity, nationality, or location; and we support truly multilateral solutions to international affairs. We oppose the unilateral (or near-unilateral) use of force, with the exception of defensive force justified under international law by clear and convincing evidence of a serious and imminent threat of aggression – and then only to a degree commensurate with the magnitude of the threat.

WEBSITE – To find out more about Brookline PAX principles and activities, including recent recommendations to Town Meeting on warrant articles and current public policy positions, visit www.BrooklinePAX.org

E-MAIL LIST – Join our e-mail list to read and place announcements of events and to discuss current issues. Send an e-mail to brooklinepax@yahoo.com (the best way to avoid typos); or send us your e-mail address on your membership form.

Brookline PAX Board members

<u>Co-Chairs</u>	Craig Bolon	Andrew Fischer	Estelle Katz	Joshua Rubenstein
Frank Farlow	Edith Brickman	Phyllis Giller	David Klaffer	Susan Senator
Martin Rosenthal	Nelson Brill	Jack Golden	Jody Lally	William Slotnick
	Margaret Burnham	Joyce DesRoches-	Virginia LaPlante	Rep. Frank Smizik
<u>Treasurer</u>	John Businger	Golden	Mark Levy	Diana Spiegel
Gary Jones	Cathleen Cavell	Ruth Golden	Rita McNally	Stanley Spiegel
	Abram Chipman	Rachel Goodman	Burton Nadler	Donald Weitzman
<u>Board members</u>	Susan Chipman	Amy Hendrickson	John Reinstein	Karen Wenc
Mariela Ames	Susan Cohen	Chobee Hoy	Evelyn Roll	Sarah Wunsch
Catherine Anderson	Shira Diner	Gilbert Hoy	Richard Rosen	Ellen Zucker
John Bassett	Marvin Feinman	Julia Johnson	Harriet Rosenstein	

Brookline PAX 2009 Endorsement Questionnaire

Name _____ Address _____ Precinct _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____ Office Sought _____ Term _____ yrs

*NOTES: A. Short answers are encouraged, but feel free to use additional sheets if necessary.
 B. See cover letter explaining the questions and PAX's endorsement process.*

1. **Why are you running** for this office? Provide some information about your background – local/national political activity, positions held, occupation, education, and anything else relevant to the office's challenges.

2. BUDGET: Rank 1-9 your **priorities** ("1" highest) regarding likely Town deficits, and briefly explain.

<input type="checkbox"/> Keep taxes level or lower	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Schools
<input type="checkbox"/> Public safety (police/fire)	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks & conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries
<input type="checkbox"/> Public health, human services	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilities & streets	<input type="checkbox"/> Affordable housing

3. LABOR/PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: What is your opinion about, and past involvement (if any) with organized labor? Assuming they might save some money, at least in the short run, what is your opinion of (a) **privatization**, including replacement of unionized employees with outside contractors using non-union labor; and (b) hiring more **part-time employees** (without benefits or job security)?

4. DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING

A. The abolition of rent control caused a loss of 7,000 **affordable housing** units in Brookline. What should the Town be doing to develop or preserve affordable housing in various parts of Brookline? What is your history of involvement (if any) in housing issues?

B. What do you think about the trade-offs between encouraging **development** for more tax revenue and its **impact on neighborhoods**? Has the latter been given enough weight, e.g., by the Planning Board? Why or why not? What's your experience (including TMM votes or in neighborhood groups) with these trade-offs, including – if you were a TMM – your vote on Art. 13 in the 2008 Fall Town Meeting (Coolidge Corner residential zoning amendment)?

5. CANDIDATES: Who are a few **electoral candidates** (local or not) that you supported during the past two years, especially (a) with either an endorsement or a contribution, and (b) in selectman's races?

6. SURVEILLANCE: What is your position on, and past activity (if any), regarding the **surveillance cameras** from the Department of Homeland Security, including (a) whether and how much the privacy intrusion bothers you, and (b) thoughts on the trade-offs between privacy loss and public safety goals?

7. DEATH PENALTY: What is your position on, and past involvement (if any) with, the **death penalty**?

8. RECORDED VOTES: Will you try to support at least one recorded vote on each night of Town Meeting? Why or why not?

9. IMMINENT TMM ISSUES: Reserving your right to hear the debates, what are your views on:

A. Why should the Selectmen be given the official titles of *Police and Fire Commissioners* – or why not? (See warrant at <http://www.brooklinema.gov/> and explanation at <http://www.brooklinepax.org>.)

B. Why (or why not) should more power to hire and fire department heads – e.g. Police, DPW, Planning – be given to the Town Administrator, and less to the selectmen, as proposed by a majority of CTO&S? (See summary at <http://www.wickedlocal.com/brookline/archive/x1658508653/Article-would-give-more-power-to-Brooklines-town-administrator> or at <http://www.brooklinepax.org>.)

10. Are NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES (usually the subject of non-binding “resolutions”) sometimes proper for debate and votes in Town Meeting? Explain.

Would you like PAX's endorsement? _____ Signature _____ Date _____