



**Brookline PAX**  
**Campaign Committee**  
**70 Francis Street, Brookline MA 02446**  
**[www.BrooklinePAX.org](http://www.BrooklinePAX.org)**

March 9, 2012

**W**e commend you for standing as a 2012 candidate for office in Brookline. As you may know, for 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 PAX supporters and 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 **submit it by e-mail** (downloadable from [www.BrooklinePAX.org](http://www.BrooklinePAX.org) or obtainable by phoning Frank Farlow at 232-9654).

**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?), indicating (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 **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21**. (Absolute deadline for **late-filing candidates**: noon on **Friday, Mar. 23**.) **NOTE**: These dates have been moved back a week from the deadline dates in the letter we sent you snailmail, to give you more time.

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

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

**[garymarsh1@earthlink.net](mailto:garymarsh1@earthlink.net) AND [frank.farlow@verizon.net](mailto:frank.farlow@verizon.net)**

We make our endorsement decisions based in large part on your responses. If you have a history as a local office holder or through other activities in town, your 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 10:00 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 15, 3:30-5:00**  
**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.

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**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](http://www.BrooklinePAX.org)

**JOIN US & OUR E-MAIL LIST** – We encourage you to join PAX, and to join our e-mail list to read and place announcements of events and to discuss current issues. To join, see the above website; then send an e-mail to [brooklinepax@yahoogroups.com](mailto:brooklinepax@yahoogroups.com), or send us your e-mail address on a membership application.

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### Brookline PAX Board members

<b><i>Co-Chairs</i></b>	Catherine Anderson	Susan Ellis	Estelle Katz	Arthur Sneider
Frank Farlow	John Bassett	Andrew Fischer	David Klafter	Diana Spiegel
Martin Rosenthal	Craig Bolon	Phyllis Giller	Virginia LaPlante	Stanley Spiegel
<b><i>Treasurer</i></b>	Edith Brickman	Rachel Goodman	Mark Levy	Dwaign Tyldal
Gary Jones	Nelson Brill	Paul Harris	Rita McNally	Donald Weitzman
	John Businger	Regina Healy	John Reinstein	
<b><i>Members</i></b>	Cathleen Cavell	Amy Hendrickson	William Slotnick	
Mariela Ames	Susan Cohen	Julia Johnson	Rep. Frank Smizik	

# Brookline PAX

## 2012 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, and what Town challenges do you see ahead? Provide some information about your background – local/state/national political activity, positions held, occupation, education, and anything else relevant to the office's challenges. **(Candidates for townwide office: Please submit a separate sheet with a longer answer, of at least 250 words; see paragraph 4 of cover letter.)**

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

___ Keep taxes level or lower	___ Recreation programs	___ Schools
___ Public safety (police/fire)	___ Parks & conservation	___ Libraries
___ Public health, human services	___ Facilities & streets	___ Affordable housing

2B. In light of state revenue shortfalls and service cutbacks (e.g., transportation infrastructure & MBTA service, as well as environmental needs) what are your views on increasing the GAS TAX, ideally with counterbalancing progressivity measures to mitigate its regressiveness but even if the latter are imperfect or impossible?

2C. If deemed necessary by Town officials for the DEVOTION SCHOOL RENOVATIONS, are you likely to support an eventual debt exclusion override for it? (See <http://www.wickedlocal.com/brookline/news/x1757250732/DeWitt-Debt-exclusion-for-Brooklines-Devotion-project-very-premature#axzz1oXdV0boj> )

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 replacing 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 in the '90's caused a loss of 7,000 **affordable housing** units in Brookline. What should the Town be doing to develop or preserve affordable housing, and if so in what areas of Brookline? What is your history of involvement (if any) in housing issues?

(b) What are your views on 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 is your experience (including TMM votes or in neighborhood groups) with these trade-offs, including – whether you were a TMM or not – downzoning proposals in the past decade For some background, see **Article 13** in the [Combined Reports for the Fall 2008 Town Meeting](#)—which received a majority vote but not the required 2/3.

5. CANDIDATES: Which **electoral candidates** (local, state or national) have you supported during the past two years, especially with either an endorsement, active campaigning or a campaign contribution?

6. SURVEILLANCE: What is your position on, and past involvement (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 the loss of privacy (including for others who might care more than you) and the public safety benefits?

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

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

9. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Article 17, Fall 2011 Town Meeting): If an incumbent, please explain your vote last November. And in any event, what are your views on Art. 17 and our Schools' requirement that the Pledge be recited – at least during principals' announcements over the PA system – in all K-12 classrooms, assuming that kids are told that it's "voluntary"? Why (or why not) is that status quo policy better than the Art. 17's main proposal for recitation only in larger assemblies? (For Art. 17, see: [http://www.brooklinema.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=5600&Itemid=654](http://www.brooklinema.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=5600&Itemid=654))

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 \_\_\_\_\_