

Brookline PAX News

Volume XXIX, No. 1

Co-chairs & editors: Marty Rosenthal & Neil Gordon

April, 2018

<http://www.brooklinepax.org>

Brookline PAX 2018 Annual Meeting & Awards

Sunday, June 10, 4-6 PM

Brookline Town Hall, Room 103, 333 Washington Street.

Admission: A voluntary donation to the Brookline Emergency Food Pantry (nonperishable food or personal care items)

Guest Speaker: LEW FINFER

(Raise Up MA, Jobs Not Jails, & MCAN (Mass. Communities Action Network))

Annual Awards (see our website for past recipients)

Jack Backman & Frank Farlow Social Justice: Marty Farlow

Ethel Halperin Lifetime Achievement: ret. Police Chief Dan O'Leary

Ethel/Ben Alper Progressive Activism: Comm'n for Diversity, Inclusion, & Community Relations

Brookline PAX Board

Co-chairs: Martin Rosenthal and Neil Gordon, Treasurer: Gary Jones

Catherine Anderson
John Bassett
Craig Bolon
Edith Brickman
Nelson Brill
John Businger
Abram Chipman
Susan Chipman
Susan Cohen
Susan Ellis
Andrew Fischer

Phyllis Giller
Jane Gilman
Rachel Goodman
John Harris
Paul Harris
Regina Healy
Nancy Heller
Chobee Hoy
Gilbert Hoy
Julia Johnson

David Klafter
Bobbie Knable
Virginia LaPlante
Mark Levy
Harry Margolis
Rebecca Mautner
Rita McNally
Puja Mehta
Bob Miller
Tony Naro

Frank Smizik
Diana Spiegel
Stanley Spiegel
Naomi Sweitzer
Dwain Tyndal
Judith Vanderkay
Kea van der Ziel
Tommy Vitolo
Donald Weitzman
Sarah Wunsch

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ENDORSEMENTS

MAY 8, 2018 TOWN ELECTION

MODERATOR
Sandy Gadsby*

TOWN CLERK
Pat Ward*

SELECT BOARD
Bernard Greene*
Nancy Heller*

LIBRARY TRUSTEE
Carol Axelrod*
Vivien Goldman*
Regina Healy*
Carol Lohe*
Koinonia Givens**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Jennifer Monopoli
David Pearlman
James Swaim

HOUSING AUTHORITY
Susan Cohen

TOWN MEETING MEMBER

PRECINCT 1
Cathleen Cavell*
Elijah Ercolino*
Neil Gordon*
Carol Hillman*
Sean Lynn-Jones*

PRECINCT 2
Barbara O'Brian*
Linda Pehlke*
Livia Schachter-Kahl*

PRECINCT 3
Dennis Doughty*
Jane Gilman*
Donald Leka*
Ben Doughty
Gary Jones

PRECINCT 4
Sarah Axelrod*
Sarah Boehs*
Martha Farlow*
John Mulhane*
Daniel Fishman

PRECINCT 5
Robert Daves*
William Reyelt*
Claire Stampfer*
Dennis DeWitt**

PRECINCT 6
John Bassett*
Christopher Dempsey*
Virginia LaPlante*
Cecilia Yudin
Jeffrey Rudolph**
Anne Trecker**

PRECINCT 7
Susan Cohen*
Susan Ellis*
Susan Granoff*
Jonathan Margolis*
Christi Electris

PRECINCT 8
Anita Johnson*
Edward Loechler*
Tracie Burns
Mitchell Heinman
Michael Toffel

PRECINCT 9
Joyce Jozwicki*
Pamela Katz*
Martin Rosenthal*
Judith Vanderkay*
George White*

PRECINCT 10
Clifford Ananian*
Linda Davis*
Naomi Sweitzer*
Jessica Morris
Ariel Maddocks**

PRECINCT 11
Carrie Benedon*
Shira Fischer*
David Lescohier*
David Pollak*
Jeffrey Wachter

PRECINCT 12
Lee Cooke-Childs*
Mark Lowenstein*
Judy Meyers*
Harry Margolis
Jules Milner-Brage

PRECINCT 13
Chris Chanyasulkit*
Adsa Tadmor

PRECINCT 14
Kenneth Goldstein*
Shaari Mittel*
Sassan Zelkha*

PRECINCT 15
Barbara Gutman

PRECINCT 16
Scott Gladstone*
Alisa Jonas*
Puja Mehta

**Incumbent
***1 or 2 year term
filling a vacancy***

VERRIDE AND DEBT EXCLUSION

Vote YES on Question 1; Vote YES on Question 2

Vote Tuesday, May 8, 7 am – 8 pm

Don't know where to vote? Call the Town Clerk's Office: (617) 730-2010 before election day.

PAX ENDORSEMENTS:

September 4 Democratic Primary

Jay Gonzalez for Governor

PAX is proud to endorse **Jay Gonzalez** for Governor, a former Brookline TMM, where he helped lead a Community Preservation Act campaign, **and** a board member of the Trust for Public Land, and former Gov. Patrick's Secretary of A&F. Jay has made ensuring universal access to affordable, high quality early childhood education a major centerpiece of his campaign, as well as environmental issues, criminal justice reform, and social justice. He's not only a true and passionate Progressive, but he has the experience in the private sector and in state government to actually deliver on our shared vision .

Josh Zakim for Secretary of State

Josh has a stellar history of progressive leadership and a vision for expanding voter rights and protections. In 2014, Josh lead the efforts to create the Boston Trust Act, prohibiting the Boston Police from detaining anyone based on their immigration status, making Boston a "sanctuary city". As Secretary of State, Josh has pledged to implement same day voter registration, automatic voter registration, and other common sense election reforms. Mass. has not been far from the forefront on these issues, and now should be.

Nick Carter for Governor's Council

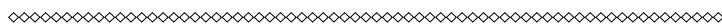
Running against Marilyn Devaney, Nick is a seasoned trial lawyer with not only the necessary experience, but also a steady hand to ensure we have the highest caliber judges, and to be an effective advocate for criminal justice reform and greater diversity in our judiciary. The Council has often been a downright embarrassment!

Cindy Creem for State Senate

That Cindy was elevated to Majority Leader came as no surprise to PAX. She has been a tireless and successful advocate for criminal justice reform, net metering and privacy, clean energy, gun control, voter rights and registration, and public education. Though unopposed, she deserves our endorsement.

Tommy Vitolo for State Representative (Precincts 2-4, 6-13)

Tommy is the most progressive Democratic candidate in the race for State Representative in the 15th Norfolk district, encompassing most of Brookline. Endorsed by our outstanding retiring Rep. Frank Smizik (and long ago PAX Chair), we too endorse Tommy (also a PAX Board member) because he's the candidate with a long history of supporting, legislating, and collaborating on important issues facing Brookline, including diversity and inclusion, government transparency, transportation, public health, workplace safety, education, and the environment.



Progress on Environmental Issues in Brookline

Clint Richmond, TMM Pct. 6, Co-Chair with Claire Stampfer, Brookline Green Caucus

Town Meeting in 2015 voted overwhelmingly to pursue Community Choice Electrical Aggregation, culminating last summer with launching Brookline's Green Electricity, offering two options increasing use of renewable energy: 25% renewable (Brookline Green), the default, and 100% renewable (Brookline All Green) -- to reduce our community's carbon impact. (If you haven't yet, sign up for 100% renewable by visiting www.brooklinegreen.com.)

Supported by PAX and TM's Green Caucus (now 88 TMM's, other recent climate-related initiatives in-

cluded passing 2 Resolutions, 1st supporting Net Zero-Energy Schools, and 2nd on Brookline independently joining the Paris Agreement.

Coming up at May TM, Brookline's Solid Waste Advisory Committee proposes expanding our 2012 the plastic waste by-laws by including utensils, straws, and stirrers; and extending the ban on food-ware with toxic risks to add polyvinyl chloride (#3 V) and polyethylene terephthalate (#1 PETE). [See Article 31 (& Explanation) @ <http://www.brooklinema.gov/1020/Town-Meeting-Files>]

Brookline Commission for Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Relations

Anthony Naro, PAX Board Member, TMM Precinct 5, Member of the CDICR & a public defender

The Commission for Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Relations (CDICR) works to support a welcoming environment by advancing, promoting and advocating for the human and civil rights of all persons who come in contact with the Town of Brookline, including residents, visitors, persons passing through the Town, employers, employees, and job applicants through education, awareness, outreach and advocacy. A diverse body, we now have wonderful student liaison, Vishni Samaraweera, as well as PAX endorsed Bernard Greene from the Select Board and Suzanne Federspiel from the School Committee.

In 2017, our Employment Diversity Committee gained Select Board approval for the first Equal Employment Opportunity Policy for our Town, to diversify the Town's workforce and recruit talented people from all walks of life..

Consistent with PAX's two successful TM sanctuary Resolutions (1985 & 2006), a CDICR Sanctuary City Working Group was formed to defend against federal attacks on immigrants. It included Jessica Chicco, an immigration attorney, Select Board Member Greene, and BPD Deputy Supt. Mike Gropman.

Collaborating with the BPD and Select Board, we now believe Brookline now boasts the most protective polices in the Commonwealth, if not New England, regarding undocumented immigrants -- including policies as to responding to ICE detainers/raids, and as to inquiring about immigration status. [See <http://brooklinema.gov/1410/Immigration-and-Refugee-Policy>]

CDICR is receiving PAX's Alper Award, see front page, and has three members who are PAX Board members.]



Commemorate John Wilson

Rob Daves . TMM Precinct 5

John Wilson was a nationally-celebrated artist whose work is exhibited in major museums nationwide. Ironically, he is less well known here in Brookline where he lived with his family for 50 years until his death in 2015.

The Committee to Commemorate John Wilson, a group of Brookline residents with diverse backgrounds, have united to raise awareness of this great artist. They launched a community-wide initiative to purchase one of Wilson's artworks, an inspirational bronze sculpture of Martin Luther King, Jr., and present it to the community. To be mounted on a pedestal in Town Hall's lobby, it will welcome

visitors and provide the emotional experience of looking into Dr. King's eyes.

The cost for the sculpture and pedestal is \$97,000, after a significant discount offered by the Wilson family and their gallery representative. \$40,000 has already been raised. The Brookline Community Foundation established a special fund to accept your tax-deductible donation. You can: Send a check to payable to BCF at 40 Webster Place, Brookline, MA 02445 noting "John Wilson MLK" in the memo line, or, Give online at: give.brooklinecommunity.org/JohnWilsonMLK, then select the "John Wilson MLK Fund."

Co-Chairs' column, 56 years & still ticking!

Especially considering our loss of Frank Farlow (see the newly named Backman Award), it's been a good year for PAX, due as always to our great (& slightly expanded) Board, and (Marty adds) Neil's great work.

After postponing our usual winter Annual Meeting to June, a tradition which we plan to now continue, we had an excellent one June 27th. The speaker was informative and compelling, Elena Letona, of Neighbor to Neighbor, on "Why Is Lady Liberty Lamenting and What Can We Do?" It was especially timely due to our presidential national nightmare. (See also Tony Naro's article.)

In last year's town election, Heather Hamilton joined a Select Board that remains 100% PAX-endorsed -- unlike the 2½ decades starting in 1988. One of two PAX-endorsed candidates for School Committee was elected, as we kept *pushing for more community-attuned leadership there, WHICH WE AGAIN DO THIS YEAR*. For Town Meeting Members ("TMMs"), we loved the influx of new, first time candidates, a trickle-down of our 2016 national election, progressives running with a PAX endorsement, who were particularly successful, winning some hard fought races, in several races replacing non-PAX endorsed incumbents. Town Meeting, too, had a good year, with—as usual—more and more TMMs taking seriously PAX's recommendations. In an Article co-sponsored by PAX Board member Tommy Vitolo, TM voted to support acquisition of an important piece of John Wilson's magnificent bronze sculpture of the head of Martin Luther King, Jr., to be placed on permanent display in the lobby of Brookline Town Hall. PAX Board member Kea van der Ziel co-sponsored, with Tricia Connors, a successful Resolution supporting establishment of "Indigenous Peoples Day." Town Meeting voted to rename our Board of Selectmen to the gender-neutral "Select Board."

Our warrant article calling for more transparency and citizen input for Town committees, improving Pax's successful 2007 by-law creating online and emailed agenda notices, was referred for further review as to logistical & technical issues, to likely result in wider distribution of meeting-related documents. Town Administrator Mel Kleckner recently confirmed that it's being worked on. TM passed three articles providing real estate tax relief to our most needy Seniors, another controlling tobacco sales, another lowering speed limits, and a resolution supporting joining the Paris Agreement under the UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change. As sorely-needed school construction is underway and being planned, we passed an important Resolution regarding net zero energy. And, we passed a resolution supporting participation in GARE (Government Alliance on Race and Equity). We also lobbied successfully to defeat an article to cease publication of the TM Warrant in the TAB.

Disappointing, to say the least was passage of an amended, watered-down version of a PAX sponsored (yes, complex) criminal sentencing reform resolution. [See the competing proposals for Article 22 @ brooklinema.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/13158 (Supplement #1, pp. 4-5, vs. Supplement # 2, PAX version).]

A majority of TMMs fell for well-intentioned and ostensible supportive Advisory Committee and Select Board Members' version, and passed a Resolution that was easier to read, factually flawed, and politically useless. (See Justice Brandeis: "The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men [sic] of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding.")

And, *la lutte* continue! It's a big imminent year, see article below on elections -- May 8th (Town, including override), **Sept. 4** (Democratic primary!) and **Nov. 4** (state seats and ballot questions, 0, as well as the YUUGE national mid-terms, Please join us! "The people united will never be defeated!" -- not by Faker Baker or even Fake (News) Pres. T____!

Join Brookline PAX or renew your membership today!

Send this coupon with a check payable to Brookline PAX to:

Brookline PAX, P.O. Box 470525, Brookline MA 02447-0525

Regular: single \$30, family \$50 Student or fixed income: single \$20, family \$30

Sustaining Member \$50 Patron \$100

I'd like to get more involved in PAX activities. (Please e-mail neil@nrgordon.com.)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____



Brookline PAX
PO Box 470525
Brookline MA 02447-0525

Brookline PAX (www.brooklinepax.org) has a 56-year history of campaigning for liberal causes and working to achieve increasingly progressive government in Brookline.

BROOKLINE PAX ACTIVELY SUPPORTS:

OUTSTANDING PUBLIC EDUCATION; EXCELLENT PUBLIC SERVICES; RESPECT FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES AND ORGANIZED LABOR; RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, DIVERSITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND PEACE

For more information on who we are and what we support, see www.brooklinepax.org/About.html

Sponsors: There is still time to *sponsor the Annual Meeting*. (Sponsors' names will be announced at the meeting.) For information and/or to be a sponsor, please contact our Treasurer, Gary Jones, at (617) 731-1611 or by email at Garymarsh1@earthlink.net

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS—VOTE MAY 8, 2018

SELECT BOARD: Bernard Greene*, Nancy Heller*

**Incumbent*

SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Jennifer Monopoli, David Pearlman, James Swaim

OVERRIDE AND DEBT EXCLUSION: YES ON BOTH QUESTION 1 & QUESTION 2

In addition to other townwide offices, there are important competitive **Town Meeting** races in **Precincts 3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, and 15**. See the full list of endorsements, including for *Town Meeting*, on page 2.