

## AL MURPHY

Resident of Boxborough since 1984  
Involvement: Chair of Housing Board  
Employment: Attorney

“Nice rural community, still relatively close to Boston and the people are nice, which makes a difference”

“I hope we can continue to have a balanced community, remain vital, and provide homes for a wide variety of people”



“The problem is the housing prices, young families, downsizing seniors”

“Remain a vital community”

Young families to be able to

Not 40B

“the forgotten middle”

Housing – trying to fix it the best way we can

We want to have a diverse community in every sense of the

Vital – people with new ideas new perspective energy

## KATHY LUCE

Resident since 2008

Wonderful small town but with small town challenges

Favorite thing about Boxborough?

Not a lot of traffic, accessibility to hopping nearby Towns,

Library Board of Trustees

## STEVE BALLARD

Resident of Boxborough since 2003

Involvement: Newly appointed Finance Committee Member

Employment: Attorney

“What would I never want to change about Boxborough? The school system. My son is now in college, but the school system.”

What do you love about Boxborough? “The people. They’re interesting, and we have the same values.”

“A lot of people, my family included, find themselves on the road to get to restaurants.”

“[There are] not restaurants, not grocery stores, not any of the other things in a normal suburb. We need more small business. But how much land is developable? I know some affordable housing is in process. I want to see us meet our objective on affordable housing. Make us more diverse, and counter the effects of the aging population.

## HOFF STUART

Resident of Boxborough for 16 years

Conservation Commission Member

Except for the winters, likes living in Boxborough

Would like Town water and sewer

We like conservation

Hope it gets us grant money

## CHARLENE GOLDEN

Resident of Boxborough for 47 years

I have lived here since I was 5 years old

Conservation Commission Member

Likes living here

Hope they don't change

It's so beautiful, it's like the country

Saved

I would not like to see Town water and sewer

Sons live in Natick and cash asset

Really happy so many people came to the Public Kickoff and not just people on Town boards

## VANESSA BROWN

Resident of Boxborough 4 years +

Love it! Love the area, school system phenomenal that's why we came here, quality of schooling and the space, land.

Place to run around

2 kids - 6yrs and 4yrs

Not feel caged in a house, can go out and explore

I try to be involved

New girls scout troupe leader

New kindergarten

Hopes - I want to see...great place to live, we depend too much on neighboring towns

Some kind of life - amenities

We have a gas station and a convenience store and that's about it!

Restaurants

I don't think we have a post office!

Adding amenities that we rely on other towns for?

Where did you hear about tonight's meeting? I heard about this everywhere! Emails, poster board, on Route 111, we'll publicized, notices

## STEFANO CAPRARA

Resident of Boxborough for 1 year

1 year - new to Town

Family lives in the area, lived in Watertown before

In-Laws close by

Wife grew up in Harvard

Business in Acton

Like the space, land...good community...the community was a nice surprise

Daughter 1.5yrs

School system nice

- no

- yes

Info online

- Preservation of common space

- live close to lib meadows

Very welcoming local spaced perspan & enhanced

Community space

Keep an eye

Not missing out on development

In long run detrimental if not

Wife's an architect

Adam - Town Planner - Cornell alumni

Want to become informed and involved - but before need to be educated and how to be of best service...and I heard they had good sandwiches.

## NANCY C. BROWN

Resident of Boxborough for 51 years (in the same house)

Involvement: Girl Scout leader, 4H leader, Grange leader, involved with Grange Fair. Husband was long-time Town Moderator. Goes to Town Meeting. Wrote "Around Boxborough" feature for The Beacon for many years.

Employment: Retired RN

"I use my middle initial because there's another Nancy Brown in town." 😊

“We came to Boxborough because it was our first house. Our starter house. We came for affordability.”

“I want Boxborough to retain its small town atmosphere. I appreciate the accessibility of information about the town and the open Town Meeting. I’ve gone to every Town Meeting since I moved here. My husband was Town Moderator for years and years”

“Town Hall is open, committee members are accessible and make an effort to make of aware of what’s going on in town.”

Where do you get your information about what’s going on in town? “From The Beacon, from Town Hall. I don’t have cable.”

“I would like to see reasonably sized houses affordable to young families. Single or duplex. Small, reasonably sized houses – not those huge monstrosities – what we used to imagine as the house with the picket fence.”

“No more commercial buildings until we’ve proven we need them. If we have empty storefronts, we shouldn’t be building more.”

“It’s sad to drive through town and see the “for rent” and “for lease” signs.

## CHIEF WARREN RYDER

Boxborough Police Chief (in force since 1995)

“I’m not a Boxborough resident, but I might as well be. I’ve worked here since 1995.”

“Boxborough is the perfect place to live”

So why don’t you live here? “I couldn’t afford it.”

What would you like to see? “More affordability for blue collar workers to live here. None of my officers lives in town. They live as far as Merrimac, New Hampshire. There are state laws that say officers have to live within 15 minutes of the town, but we had to petition to get it changed to 45 minutes. It does present difficulties when I’m trying to get people back during emergencies.

“No firefighters live in town. I think one full-time DPW worker, and a few from Town Hall.”

“Can you imagine if police officers lived in the community and had a true vested interest in the community – they do now – but where you live has a special place in your heart.

“Don’t get me wrong. The officers love working here. They watch the kids grow up and have a real connection here. It’s like an extended family.”

What part of Boxborough do you never want to see change? “Never change the part of our job is to keep that character about the town. To keep Boxborough feeling like it’s far away from Boston.

## JANET CONNOLLY

(green cardigan)

Resident of Boxborough for 10 years

Involvement: “I vote and go to Town Meeting.”

“I used to live in Acton. I wanted less shopping and more rural character. Also the schools.”

“What would I want never to change? Well it’s too late for that. The schools. The regionalized schools. We had to do it because of the shrinking population and insurance for teachers.”

What would you like to see change? “We need to be able to walk on sidewalks to get where you want to go. Schools. Like our surrounding communities. Kids want to be able to ride their bike safely.”

## REBECCA MORRIS

(hat)

Boxborough resident since 2012 (“I’m a newbie!”)

Involvement: Energy Committee Member, Democratic Town Committee member

What would you never want to see change about Boxborough? “The town “law” that you have to have a stone wall. Everyone has a stone wall, or at least a few rocks. More seriously, the quiet. It’s beautiful. Peaceful. Quiet.”

What would you like to see change? “I’d like to see us get away from fossil fuels, convert to solar, renewables. As a small town, we have a role as a model. We have a lot of talet. We need to model to the rest of the state how it can be done when you’re a small town.”

## PETER PREMKUMAR YENDLURI

Boxborough resident since 2005

Employment: IT

“Town water and all. We need a post office. And shopping. Amenities.”

What would you never want to change? “The greenness.”

## JOHN MARKIEWICZ

Chair of Master Plan Update Committee

Planning Board Member for 20 years

Boxborough resident for 21 years

Employment: Cisco; now semi-retired.

“Everyone says they want to preserve the rural character. Bur what does that mean? We need something along Route 111, but we need to attract business that *fits in*. And has adequate parking, of course. We need to preserve open space. We have beautiful trails, but they’re not used too often. The same few people use them.”

“I look at those studies that point to a shift in the population – what will be the economic impact of that wave of population?”

“When I came in, there was discussion of building a second school. There had been a big population spurt in the 90’s. With regionalization (of schools), we can have less dramatic cycles, but they’ll still be there.”

“Can people afford to stay in the house that they’re in?”

“We have to look at the tax base and economic development to get other sources of revenue that don’t strain services. We have to make sure people can stay in town.”

“You know the cluster housing idea that came up in discussion? That’s be shot down so often.”

“There’s not much open space for more building.”

“This new development will remove the 40B threat.”

“We have been changing zoning so as not to get a big box store. I want to keep that zoning. That would ruin our rural character, because people would need to get there.

“Conservation Commission doesn’t like the word sidewalks. They would be ok with walking trails along Route 111 next to the road.” Would these trails be paved? “Yes.”

“Of all the public meetings we’ve had in this town, this is without doubt the best-attended and most involved in the 20 years I’ve been here.”

**SELINA SHAW**

Town Administrator

“A wonderful turnout, and a number of people in the community I hadn’t seen previously. They just got right into it!”