



Katherine Cabral Perrin

Select Board – 1 year term

My professional background is in small business development. After leaving the business world for a slower pace, I am now working as a therapist in Freeport, Maine. My current career also focuses on the mental health needs of aging Mainers as a TRIAD Fellowship Scholar. I have also recently finished serving six years on the MSAD#51 Board of Directors, two years where I was voted as Board Chair unanimously by my peers. There I delivered a 0% budget that balanced the needs of our students as well as our taxpayers. I am the daughter of a Vietnam War Veteran and Social Worker; public service is in my bones. My husband of 14 years and I moved our three children to North Yarmouth in 2014. In my free time, I enjoy gardening and kayaking on the Royal River, and I also volunteer for the Sexual Assault Support Services of Midcoast Maine.

1. What are your qualifications for the office that you seek?

- I am a uniquely qualified candidate given my business development background and my current career as a therapist. Both of those careers have given me a wide breadth of experience in accomplishing fiscal and strategic goals, negotiating contracts, and hearing all sides in any given challenge. I have six years of experience leading a governing body, some of those during very challenging times in our community, and I have done so collaboratively, respectfully, and with my ethical compass intact. Having hard conversations is what I am trained to do, and I am ready to utilize this skill if elected.

2. What motivated you to run for the office that you seek?

- I was motivated to run for this select board seat because I want to bridge the growing gap between our longtime residents and our new families. Our town is changing, but there is no reason everyone cannot feel heard and valued. I am frustrated with the lack of civility and collaboration at times in North Yarmouth. I want to create space for actual conversation and a meaningful community where we can get things done as a town.

3. Do you have sufficient time/energy to devote to this position?

- My attendance and work ethic were demonstrated over six years on the MSAD#51 Board of Directors. I have proven myself a dedicated member of any committee or board that I join, and my flexible schedule allows for the necessary level of commitment. While

campaigning during such challenging times felt daunting, I am confident in my ability to attend meetings and committees and carry out the work of the select board.

4. With one or two meetings a month, all boards are limited in what they can accomplish, how should the board decide what is most important?

- We must start listening to the community as a whole and not just small groups of people. My professional experience as a facilitator would seek to bring our community together to identify our town's plan of action. The community should help the select board and town manager to develop a strategic plan. The select board goals should tie directly back to the strategic plan, and there should be clearly delineated action steps contained within this plan which would dictate the actual work of the select board. My chosen priorities would be smart fiscal planning, increasing community engagement, and a comprehensive review (with public input) on the size of the village residential district zone.

5. Think of an issue facing North Yarmouth that you care about. Do you have a positive solution that you want to bring forth?

- I care about balancing our town and hearing more voices. I believe in the goal of the comprehensive plan, which seeks to preserve and honor our town's deep agricultural roots while creating a small village center with businesses and neighborhoods. I do think the comprehensive plan needs a review and more public input. I would also like to work closely with the planning board to possibly reduce the size of the village residential zone and add other zoning groups in order to clearly plan for various land uses and increased open land preservation. As a town, we must do better, and the answers are often more complex than a Yes or No vote.