

Town Election Monday, May 1

Board of Library Trustees candidate statements

The following three candidates are seeking to fill two 3-year seats:

Joy Kinigstein:

Born in the New York metropolitan area, I have made Williamsburg my home since 1987. During the last 3 decades, I have worked locally as an artist and art teacher (24 years at Hilltown Cooperative Charter Public School), raised 2 children educated at the Williamsburg Public Schools, and cherished our town library. Personally speaking, Meekins has not only served as a dependable resource for books and entertainment, but as a center for community involvement. At the library, I made deep connections with neighbors, participated in town celebrations, and showcased my students and my own artwork. After many years benefitting from Meekins multi offerings, I seek to join the Board of Directors to contribute my unique perspective as a longtime resident and educator in the Hilltowns.

Kevin McAllister:

My wife Susan and I moved to Burgy in 2001. I have been retired since 2017 when we sold our software company, inRESONANCE. Headquartered in Northampton, the company served independent schools across the country and in 34 countries worldwide. As a Northampton business owner I was a Platinum member of the Northampton Chamber for over 8 years and participated in the rebranding initiative.

In retirement I serve on the Williamsburg Woodland Trail Committee and volunteer with The Trustees and The Hilltown Land Trust. I serve on a couple of other Boards and volunteer as a business consultant to entrepreneurs and startups.

Town libraries have been a refuge and passion for me since childhood. My mother worked in our California town library for over 25 years. As an avid reader, books have always been a vital part of my life. But town libraries can also serve as a community center. My hope is to work with the Meekin's Board to make the facility even more of a resource for our community in every sense.

Anna Seren:

I have been a resident of Haydenville in Williamsburg for the last 15 years and a frequent visitor for the 7 years before that, as my husband's family (the Warners) have lived and farmed here for over 200 years. Being an active part of this community is an important aspect of my life: I am co-owner with my husband, Nathan McElligott, of Abide Wellness Community, a massage and bodywork practice located in Haydenville and specializing in craniosacral therapy; I am a member of the Williamsburg Players theater group, and I have directed the last 4 musicals at Anne T. Dunphy elementary school.

Having grown up in a library (my aunt was a librarian) and volunteered in libraries, I understand the importance of the institution as a hub of information, entertainment, and community service. I look forward to being a part of the continued growth and resiliency of our libraries.

[Additonally, **Todd Lynch** is running unopposed for the 2-year seat he now holds.]