

AGENDA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
September 1, 2009
7:00 p.m.
Town Building

Public Input

Chairman's Comments

Town Administrator's Report

Meeting Minutes

Visitors

- 7:10 p.m.: Flu preparedness update, Stow Health Agent Jack Wallace
- 7:20 p.m.: Traffic at Honey Pot Hill, Richard Martin and Public Safety officials
- 7:30 p.m.: Recognition of retiring ZBA member Richard Martin and COA member and chair Jim Sauta.
- 7:35 p.m.: Appointment of Associate member to Zoning Board of Appeals
- 7:40 p.m.: Land Use Task Force final report and task force dissolution, LUTF members.

Action/Discussion

- Review of Master Plan chapter on Housing
- Update on committee management, Steve Dungan
- Update on October Town Meeting warrant and closing date
- Appointments to the Cable License Advisory Committee
- Treasurer's authority to manage Town trust funds, per MGL C41 s46
- Permit for El Hogar Walkathon for Charity, October 17, 2009
- Permit for Annual Stow Gobbler Road Race, November 6, 2009
- Support for MMA 6th-grade essay content

Selectmen's Master Planning

Liaison Reports, if any

Correspondence

Adjournment

Posted 8/28/09

Correspondence

Town:

Town Engineer's letter to Selectmen re considerations for new Town water, rec'd 8/19
CC of Conservation Comm letter to Kingland Road resident re Kingland Road parcels, rec'd 8/19
DPU order on Assabet Water Co offer of settlement, rec'd 8/21
CC of resident letter of appreciation to Conservation Comm re Kingland Road parcels, rec'd 8/27
Planning Board notice of 9/22 public hearing on zoning bylaw amendments, rec'd 8/27

General:

MBTA Advisory Board report on FY 2010 supplemental budget request, rec'd 8/25
Comcast letter on Customer Guarantee initiative, rec'd 8/27

Sept 1, 2009 Selectmen's meeting motions, 8/28/09

Appointment to Zoning Board of Appeals

I move that the Board appoint Ruth Kennedy Sudduth as an Associate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, to fill the remainder of an unexpired five-year term, ending June 30, 2012.

Dissolution of Land Use Task Force

Having fulfilled its charter, I move that the Board dissolve the Land Use Task Force, effective today.

Appointments to Cable License Advisory Committee

- **Arnold Buckman**
I move that the Board appoint Arnold Buckman to the Cable License Advisory Committee, for a one-year term, ending on June 30, 2010.
- **Robert Mong**
I move that the Board appoint Robert Mong to the Cable License Advisory Committee, for a two-year term, ending on June 30, 2011.
- **Lew Halprin**
I move that the Board appoint Lew Halprin to the Cable License Advisory Committee, for a three-year term, ending on June 30, 2012.

Treasurer's Authority to Manage Town Trust Funds

In accordance with MGL C41 s46, I move that the Board authorize Treasurer-Collector Pamela Landry to sell, assign, and endorse for transfer, certificates representing stocks, bonds, or other securities now registered or hereafter registered in the name of the Town of Stow.

Permit for El Hogar Walkathon

I move that the Board permit the El Hogar Walkathon for Charity, to be held on October 17, 2009.

Permit for Annual Stow Gobbler Road Race

I move that the Board permit the 3rd Annual Stow Gobbler Road Race, to be held on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 2009.

Support of MMA Essay Content

I move that the Board support the participation of our 6th-grade students in the Massachusetts Municipal Association's 2009 statewide essay content.

MEMBER
MASS. FARM BUREAU FED
MASS. FRUIT GROWERS ASSOC
MASS. ROADSIDE STAND ASSOC

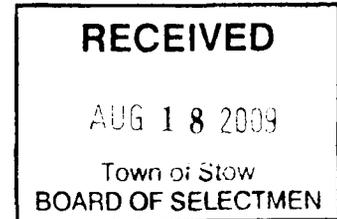


978-562-5666 – THE FARM
978-562-5225 – RICHARD S. MARTIN
978-568-0355 – ANDREW S. MARTIN
JULIE-MARTIN SULLIVAN

Honey Pot Hill Orchards

144 Sudbury Road - Stow, Massachusetts 01775

August 18, 2009



Board of Selectman
Town Building
Stow, MA 01775

Gentlemen,

We at Honey Pot Hill Orchards are faced at times with a serious problem of parking cars. This is bad for the Town and probably worse for us.

Two years ago we created a one-way low of traffic from Boon Road through our parking lot to Sudbury Road. That change coupled with closing off Sudbury Road in Gleasondale to Boon Road worked well. This also allowed clear passage on Sudbury Road for emergency vehicles to access Lake Boon.

This year we have reconfigured this 15-acre parking lot to move cars through and park them efficiently which was a good part of our problem last year.

Manual traffic control at the four corners of Sudbury, Boon, and Whitman streets is not generally needed. However, at times it is. We need the flexibility of sending a competent, knowledgeable person to the four corners to assist in an organized flow of vehicles.

Our police chief has been very helpful with his thoughts, and our town administrator has been up front with what he believes are the perils of our being in the road.

Someone who is aware of our overall layout is needed on the road only when there is a traffic tie up to direct the flow of traffic appropriately.

Looking forward to your thoughts on the 25th.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Martin



Town of Stow
POLICE DEPARTMENT
305 Great Road
Stow, Massachusetts 01775

(978) 897-4545
FAX (978) 897-3692

Mark H. Trefry
Chief of Police

October 13, 2008

William Wrigley
Town Administrator
Stow, MA 01775

Mr. Wrigley,

Incidents regarding traffic volume and congestion over this past weekend resulted in a situation that can best be described as critical. Two events contributed to this problem. First, the annual apple picking at Honey Pot Orchards. Secondly, the Colling's Foundation Living History weekend.

Traffic in these locations were at gridlock. To give a proper perspective on this issue, traffic was stopped from the intersection of Whitman Street, Sudbury Road and Boon Road in the following directions.

1. South on Sudbury Road to Kingland Road.
2. North on Whitman Street to Route 62.
3. North on Boon Road to Route 62.
4. Intersections were blocked and residents were unable to exit driveways.

This traffic congestion would prohibit or greatly delay the response of any emergency vehicle responding to the south side of Stow. The Stow Fire Department was notified to make contingent plans regarding their responses to the area. Three Police Officers including myself were dedicated to the area to assist in this traffic issue, leaving the rest of the town without Police service for a period of time. At one point, all three roads were closed to prohibit any traffic from entering the area until the gridlock situation could be cleared. The crime of Assault and Battery was investigated via telephone as a result of Officers directing traffic and unable to enter the area. On numerous occasions, both Richard and Andrew Martin, owners of Honey Pot Orchards were removed from the public ways when found to be directing traffic and verbally warned no less than six times to cease with their actions. Subsequently, Andrew Martin was fined \$50.00 for interfering with traffic. Coupled with the numerous telephone calls from irate residents regarding this situation, two arrests for drunk driving, one serious crash involving a bicyclist transported to a trauma center in which the operator of the motor

vehicle was arrested for drunk driving , limited the resources of this Police Department making the situation critical.

Now that I have indentified the problem, how do we fix it? As safety Officer, I would like to suggest the following for your review as well as the Selectman's.

1. Involve current members of Stow's Safety Committee to review the traffic issues at Honey Pot.
2. Require permits for large events such as the Colling's Foundation open house.
3. Require Honey Pot or any large scale event to provide adequate security with a police presence both on the property and outside for traffic control, as well as adequate medical staff to assist with with problems that may arise with large gatherings.
4. The posting of permanent, "no parking" signs in the Honey Pot area.

I feel the time to address this issue is now. As one visitor to Stow stated, "I can't believe the Police can't protect my family when we come to pick apples." I would have to agree with his statement.

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to helping the town solve this issue in the near future.

Respectfully,

Timothy Lima
Sergeant

Cc: Police Chief



Town of Stow
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Stow Town Building
380 Great Road

Stow, Massachusetts 01775

(978) 897-4515 selectmen@stow-ma.gov Fax (978) 897-4631

NOTICE OF VACANCY

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
One Member

Duties: The Zoning Board of Appeals is a quasi-judicial board as established by state law and has specific duties and responsibilities including:

- Hear appeals from parties aggrieved by the decision of an administration official concerning zoning issues.
- Hear and decide applications for certain special permits as provided by the zoning bylaws.
- Hear and decide petitions to vary specific requirements of the zoning bylaws.
- Hear and decide applications for comprehensive permits.

Qualifications: Registered voter of Stow. Sound independent judgment, a sense of fairness and an ability to act on the evidence (and information) as determined with reference to the applicable sections of the Town of Stow's zoning bylaws and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A, The Zoning Act.

Term: Five years upon appointment by the Board of Selectmen.

Application: The Selectmen will accept letters of application until 5:00 p.m., Thursday, August 6, 2009.

Posted 7/15/09

Stow Selectmen's Office

From: Ruth Sudduth [rksudduth@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2009 5:36 PM
To: selectmen@stow-ma.gov; bruceefletcher@verizon.net
Subject: ZBA Application

Dear Susan,

As we discussed, please find attached my letter of application for Associate Membership of the Zoning Board of Appeals. I sent a hard copy to Kay Desmond at the ZBA as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth

--

Ruth Kennedy Sudduth
617-359-5584 cell

7/16/2009

July 12, 2009

Zoning Board of Appeals

Board of Selectmen

Town of Stow

380 Great Road

Stow, MA 01775

Dear Members of the Board of Selectmen and the Zoning Board of Appeals:

I would like to indicate my interest in joining the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Associate Member.

My background as a real estate advisor and broker for the last decade and service on the Planning Board should help to give me a useful perspective on the issues that come before the ZBA. I have advised my clients on ZBA-related matters in other towns, and am familiar with the roles and responsibilities of the ZBA. My tenure as a member of the Planning Board should provide some context for the regulatory framework in the Town regarding land use matters.

For those of you who don't know me, I have been a resident of Stow for the last 15 years. I live on Charlie and Ellie Childs' old farm at the end of Tuttle Lane, which I have renovated and expanded over the years, conserving much of the surrounding land that was not already part of the Stow Conservation Commission Sargent Farm property. I am a graduate of Yale University and have an MBA from Harvard, where I was elected a Baker Scholar. I worked for 13 years for Wellington Management managing global bond portfolios and for the last 11 years at LandVest, Inc, where I am a Principal of the firm, focusing on large and complex land projects. I have served on the Board and as Treasurer of Sudbury Valley Trustees, and am a former Board member of Groton School, Bennington College and the Town of Stow Planning Board. I'd be happy to talk to any of you if you have any questions. I have been interested in joining the ZBA for years, and have had several conversations with Jack Clayton and Bruce Fletcher over time. Unfortunately my late husband's illness put my volunteer work on hold for some time. I feel like it is time for me to try to be of service to my community again, and hope that you will consider my application.

Best wishes,



Ruth Kennedy Sudduth

137 Tuttle Lane

Stow, MA 01775

rsudduth@landvest.com



Town of Stow
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Stow Town Building
380 Great Road

Stow, Massachusetts 01775

(978) 897-4515 selectmen@stow-ma.gov Fax (978) 897-4631

NOTICE OF VACANCIES

CABLE LICENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Three Members

Duties: The Cable Licensing Advisory Committee performs the following functions:

- Monitors the quality of the video cable system in Stow
- Monitors compliance by the cable company with its license and other laws
- Interfaces with the Massachusetts cable television department (DTE)
- Interfaces with the Stow cable provider (Comcast and Verizon)
- Serves as liaison between Stow consumers and the cable company
- Acting for the Selectmen, the Committee runs the formal selection process for a licensee, initial as well as renewal, each 10 years, and writes all applicable documents (licenses, etc.)

Qualifications: Registered voter of Stow.

Term: For a newly re-formed committee, consisting of three members, for terms of three years, with the first appointments staggered: one member appointed to a one-year term ending June 30, 2010; one member appointed to a two-year term ending June 30, 2011; and one member appointed to a three-year term ending June 30, 2012.

Application: The Selectmen will accept letters of application until 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 21, 2009.

Posted August 7, 2009

Stow Selectmen's Office

From: LHalprin [LHalprin@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2009 4:30 PM
To: selectmen@stow-ma.gov
Cc: Bob Mong; Arny Buckman
Subject: Application for Cable Committee Membership

Stow Board of Selectmen
Stow Town Building
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775

I would like to apply for one of the membership positions for the Stow Cable License Advisory Committee as posted on August 7, 2009. In the past I have served on this committee, for many of those years as its chairman, during the renewal of the current Comcast cable license, and more recently during the establishment of a cable license with Verizon. Comcast will be starting discussions soon for the renewal again of their cable license with Stow, and I would like to be part of those negotiations as a member of the newly reconstituted Cable License Advisory Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lewis Halprin

Lewis Halprin
82 Pine Point Road
Stow, MA 01775
(978) 562-9839
LHalprin@earthlink.net

8/10/2009

Stow Selectmen's Office

From: Robert Mong [bob@mong.stow.ma.us]
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2009 8:01 PM
To: Susan McLaughlin
Subject: Application for Cable Committee membership

Stow Board of Selectmen
Stow Town Building
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775

I would like to apply for one of the membership positions for the Stow Cable License Advisory Committee as posted on August 7, 2009. In the past I have served on this committee during the renewal of the current Comcast cable license, and more recently during the establishment of a cable license with Verizon. I look forward to being a member of the newly reconstituted Cable License Advisory Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stow Selectmen's Office

From: Arny [arny27@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, August 08, 2009 8:30 AM
To: selectmen@stow-ma.gov
Cc: Lew Halprin; Bob Mong
Subject: Application for Cable Committee Membership

Stow Board of Selectmen
Stow Town Building
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775

I would like to apply for one of the membership positions for the Stow Cable License Advisory Committee as posted on August 7, 2009. In the past I have served on this committee during the renewal of the current Comcast cable license, and more recently during the establishment of a cable license with Verizon. Comcast will be starting discussions soon for the renewal again of their cable license with Stow, and I would like to be part of those negotiations as a member of the newly reconstituted Cable License Advisory Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Arnold Buckman
27 Sudbury Road
Stow, MA 01775
(978) 562-6087
arny27@verizon.net



Town of Stow
TREASURER-COLLECTOR

**380 Great Road
Stow, Massachusetts 01775
(978) 897-2834
FAX (978) 897-4534**

August 28, 2009

To: Board of Selectmen

RE: Trust Fund Investments

The Town's trust fund assets are held by a company called Pershing LLC which is owned by Bank of New York Mellon. They are requiring that I provide them with the enclosed form in order to make transfers to and from the account.

Please make a resolution that the Town Treasurer is authorized to sell, assign and endorse for transfer, certificates representing stocks, bonds or other securities now registered or hereafter registered in the name of this organization.

This is something that the Town Treasurer has always done and is authorized by MGL Ch. 41, Sect. 46.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Landry".

Pamela Landry
Treasurer-Collector

NON-CORPORATE RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following officers:

Pamela Landry
(Name)

Treasurer
(Title)

(Name)

(Title)

(Name)

(Title)

or any one of them acting individually, are hereby authorized to sell, assign and endorse for transfer, certificates representing stocks, bonds or other securities now registered or hereafter registered in the name of this organization.

I, _____, Authorized Officer

of Town of Stow
(Name of Organization)

Hereby certify that the foregoin is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the

of Selectman
(Name of Governing Body of the Organization)

Hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by the governing body of said organization at a meeting duly held the _____ day of _____, 2009 at which a quorum was present and voting, and that the same has not been repealed or amended, and remains in full force and effect and does not conflict with the by-laws of said organization.

(Please Affix Seal)

(If No Seal, Clarify That There Is No Seal)

(Date)

Signature of Authorized Officer
(The Resolution must be signed by a different officer than the one signing the Stock/Bond Power)

State of _____

Country of _____ s.s.:

Sworn before me this _____ day of _____, 20 _____

(Account Number, if applicable)

(Notary Public)

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MISSIONERS,
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 pter forty-four
 ree years the

of sinking fund commissioners equal to the number whose term then expires. In towns they shall be elected by ballot at town meeting, and in cities by concurrent vote of both branches of the city council. In case of a vacancy the remaining member or members shall exercise the powers of the board until the vacancy is filled. The city or town treasurer shall not be eligible as a commissioner, and the acceptance by a commissioner of the office of treasurer shall render his former office vacant. The foregoing provisions as to the mode of electing commissioners shall not apply to boards of sinking fund commissioners which were established before the thirteenth day of June in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-five. The commissioners shall choose a treasurer, who may be the city or town treasurer; and if the city or town treasurer is chosen his bond shall apply to and include duties performed as treasurer of the sinking fund. If any other person is chosen treasurer he shall give a bond, with sureties, to the satisfaction of the commissioners, for the proper performance of his official duties. The commissioners may also choose a secretary.

Historical and Statutory Notes

- St.1875, c. 209, § 5.
- St.1882, c. 29, § 10.
- St.1902, c. 27, § 14.
- St.1913, c. 719, § 13.

COMMISSIONERS OF TRUST FUNDS

§ 45. Creation; membership; powers and duties

Any city or town, except Boston, may create a board of commissioners of trust funds, consisting of three persons who shall have the management of trust funds given or bequeathed for the benefit of the town or the inhabitants thereof, unless the donor in making the gift or bequest shall otherwise provide. In cities the commissioners shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the council; in towns they shall be elected in the same manner as other town officers. At the time of the organization of said board there shall be appointed or elected one member for one year, one member for two years; and one member for three years; and thereafter one member shall be appointed or elected annually thereafter for three years. Vacancies shall be filled by the mayor, with the approval of the selectmen or by the selectmen.

Historical and Statutory Notes

- St.1876, § 104.
- St.1922, c. 282, §§ 1, 6.

§ 45A. Commissioners in towns under five thousand population

If a town having less than five thousand inhabitants votes to accept this section, the board of selectmen of such town shall thereafter have all the powers and duties of commissioners of trust funds, as provided in sections forty-five and forty-seven, until such time as the number of inhabitants of said town shall exceed five thousand.

Added by St.1952, c. 79.

§ 46. Town treasurer; duties; bond

The town treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds and securities of such trust funds, shall invest and reinvest them and expend therefrom moneys as directed by the commissioners. The treasurer shall furnish a bond satisfactory to them for the faithful performance of his duties.

Amended by St.1957, c. 203.

Historical and Statutory Notes

- St.1915, c. 282, § 2.

§ 47. Powers and duties

The said board of commissioners shall, so far as consistent with the terms of the trusts, manage and control the same, and distribute the income in accordance with the terms of the respective trusts. The board shall keep a record of its doings, and at the close of each financial year shall make a report to the town, showing the total amount of the funds, and their investments, receipts and disbursements on account of the same, setting forth in detail the sources of the receipts and the purposes of the expenditures.

Historical and Statutory Notes

- St.1915, c. 282, § 3.

AUDITOR

§ 48. Tenure of city auditor

In cities which accepted chapter three hundred and seventy-three of the acts of nineteen hundred and five, the auditor shall hold office for three years from the date of his election or appointment and until his successor is qualified, unless sooner removed; provided, however, the appointing authority may, by written contract, appoint an auditor for a term not to exceed five years. A person chosen to fill a vacancy shall hold the office until the end of the unexpired term of his predecessor.

Amended by St.1994, c. 223.

RECEIVED

AUG 17 2009

Town of Stow
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

August 15, 2009

Stow Board of Selectmen
Stow Town Hall
380 Great Rd
Stow, MA 01775

Dear Board of Selectmen,

I am requesting permission to host a 3-mile "El Hogar walkathon" for charity on October 17, 2009 from Noon - 3:00 pm. I have been informed that I need to ask permission of this board as participants would be walking on town property – sidewalks and streets. Please find attached an "approval" from Sgt. Lima of the Stow Police Department as well as my proposal for a route and other pertinent information.

Please let me know if you have other questions and if you approve of this proposal so I may move forward with advertising and fundraising for this orphanage/school in Honduras. If you'd like more information about this charity information about this organization as well as the US-wide "walkathon" events, please see feel free to ask or see www.wlhogar.org.

Thank you



Diane Statkus
18 Harvard Rd
Stow, MA 01775

978.897.3240



tlima.stowpd@comcast.net
07/29/09 07:25 PM

To diane statkus <diane_statkus@us.ibm.com>
cc
bcc

Subject Re: Approval for Walkathon - October 17, 2009

History: ↩ This message has been replied to.

Hi Diane,

The Route looks fine, I would be concerned with a couple of the areas along Route 62. Traffic cones might help, we will discuss that later. We have plenty of cones and signs I am sure we will be using to help keep you guys safe. Other than that, it looks fine.

Regards,
Sgt. Lima

----- Original Message -----

From: "diane statkus" <diane_statkus@us.ibm.com>
To: "tlima stowpd" <tlima.stowpd@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2009 4:58:48 PM GMT -05:00 US/Canada Eastern
Subject: Fw: Approval for Walkathon - October 17, 2009

Hi Sgt. Lima,

I was wondering if you had had a chance to review my proposal? Thanks

Regards,
Diane

Diane Statkus
OnTARGET Program and Analysis Manager
IBM CHQ, Enterprise On Demand
t/l: 557-3946 ext phone: 781-402-3946
diane_statkus@us.ibm.com

----- Forwarded by Diane Statkus/Cambridge/IBM on 07/29/09 04:55 PM -----

Diane Statkus/Cambridge/IBM
07/23/09 11:04 AM

To tlima.stowpd@comcast.net
cc
Subject Approval for Walkathon - October 17, 2009

Hi Sgt. Lima,

If you take a peak at the Stow Independent this week, you'll see a picture on the front with the El Hogar

kids and Lori Tavis and myself. This article relates to the walk we want to do in October. There are a few open questions regarding parking approval from the Pompo principal and not interfering timewise with Stow Soccer - but wanted to get you this email proposal for our walk we'd like to do on Saturday October 17.

After you review and I address any quesitons or issues, I'll move forward with a letter to the Selectmen. Hopefully you won't have any issue opening this Powerpoint 2 page document.

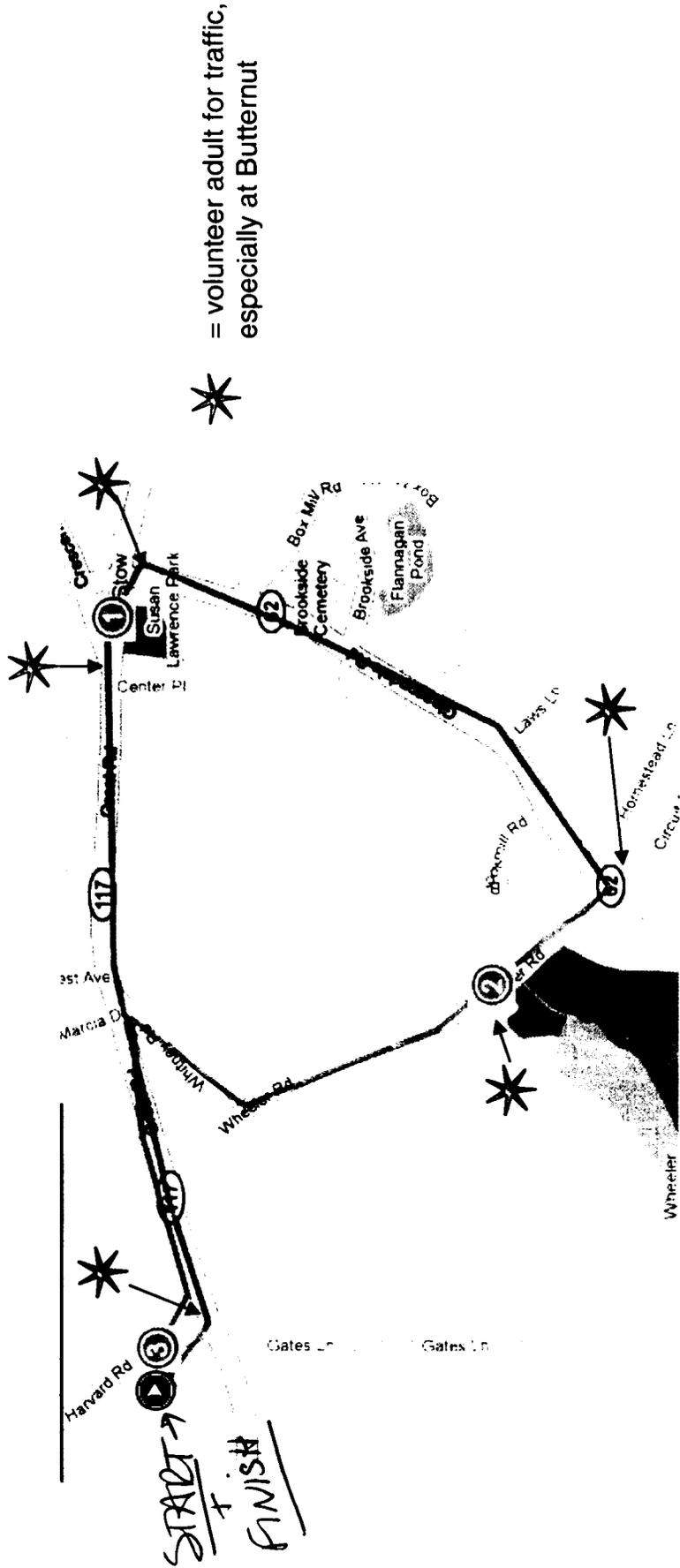
Thanks a bunch and please let me know if you need more information. Thanks

Regards,
Diane

Diane Statkus
OnTARGET Program and Analysis Manager
IBM CHQ, Enterprise On Demand
t/l: 557-3946 ext phone: 781-402-3946
diane_statkus@us.ibm.com

Route for El Hogar Walkathon – Saturday, October 17, 2009 12:00 pm start

1. Start at 18 Harvard Rd to Rt 117. (I will be asking Greg Irvine if participants can park at Pompo. We've done that in the past for events at our house.)
2. Walk East on Rt 117 to Intersection of Rt 62 and take right (crossing on cross walk at old town hall)
3. Walk South on Rt 62 to Wheeler Rd and turn right onto Wheeler Road towards 117
4. Take Right on Whitney to end and cross 117 and head back West on 117 and right on Harvard Rd. Ending at starting location.



Other Walk Details

- Walk is a 3 mile walk only.
- Anticipate under 100 people – kids and adults.
- Walk to start at Noon due to soccer game traffic.(Checking with Stow Soccer club on when soccer is done at Pompo – so we don't overlap)
- We will say that all kinds under the age of 10 must have an adult walking with them
- Walk starts at Noon and would be over by 1:30 or probably earlier.
- We will serve refreshments at our house at 18 Harvard Rd.
- We would ask that all cars be off the Pompo property by 3:00 pm

Stow Selectmen's Office

Hold for 8/25 meeting

From: Peggy Papanastassiou [PegQuince@msn.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 19, 2009 4:21 PM
To: Susan McLaughlin
Subject: Stow Gobbler

Reschedule to 9/1.

Hi Susan,

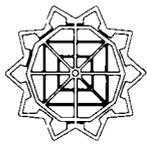
I hope you are having a great summer, especially now that it is nice out.

Alex and Nick will be organizing the Stow Gobbler again this year and would like to meet with the Selectmen again. Is it possible to schedule them in before they take off for college at the end of August?

BTW, how is Emmett? We continue to love the picture poster we have of him and will use it again this year, of course!

Peggy

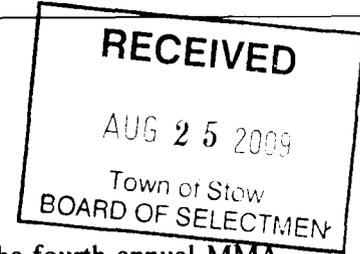
7/20/2009



**MASSACHUSETTS
MUNICIPAL
ASSOCIATION**

ONE WINTHROP SQUARE, BOSTON, MA 02110
617-426-7272 • 800-882-1498 • fax 617-695-1314 • www.mma.org

Sent to M. Woods &/JLU, 8/25/09



August 20, 2009

Dear Mr. Wrigley,

The Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) is pleased to announce the fourth annual MMA **Statewide Essay Contest for 6th Graders**. This initiative raises public awareness, promotes the attributes of good local government and encourages future leaders of Massachusetts to take an active interest in their community activities.

“If I were elected leader of my community, I would make a difference by...”

What:

The MMA invites 100 cities and towns to participate in the 2009 contest. We are sending this letter to the chief municipal official in each community and the first 100 communities to respond will participate this year. Last year, the MMA received over 2200 essays from the 89 participating communities. We are looking forward to an even greater number of participating communities in 2009.

When:

Complete the enclosed commitment sheet and return it to the MMA by September 11. In early October, the MMA will send you, your superintendent and your 6th Grade principals an essay contest kit, which will include a contest poster and information, as well as a link to the MMA website for the contest form and a study guide on local government. We will be asking your school leaders to distribute the essay materials to all 6th Graders. Students will be able to access contest materials via our website: www.mma.org.

Why:

The essay contest is fun for students and demands little time or preparation from the teacher. It is viewed as an independent student project but can be incorporated into a teacher's lesson plan. The MMA is available as a resource to any teacher, school or municipal official.

Who:

All 6th Graders in your public schools are invited to participate. The MMA will award savings bonds to three students. The overall winner will be invited to the MMA's Annual Meeting & Trade Show, January 22-23, in Boston. Every student who participates will receive a participation gift. In addition, all teachers who participate will be entered into a random drawing for a prize. The contest deadline for students is November 10th.

If you have any questions, please contact Essay Contest Coordinators, Ellen Stoolmacher or Kristi Williams at (800) 882-1498. We are excited to engage and encourage students to think creatively about local government. We hope you will join our effort by signing up your community today! Thank you for your time, interest and leadership.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Beckwith
Executive Director
Massachusetts Municipal Association

Jeffrey Nutting, Franklin Town Manager
President
Massachusetts Municipal Association

MMA's Statewide 6th Grade Essay Contest

Community Leadership Commitment

Active involvement of elected officials and the chief administrative officer is key to the essay contest's success. You are the main catalysts in your communities.

We'll count on you to support the contest in your community, generate enthusiasm for local government, and help make one of your 6th graders the winner of the MMA's statewide essay contest! (Contest materials will be mailed to your schools.)

Your leadership is important to the success of the contest. Please consider:

- Publicizing the contest in your community by working with your superintendent, principals and teachers. Alert the PTA, school committee, and community groups.
- Promoting the contest on your community's website.
- Posting contest materials in city/town hall.
- Visiting your 6th graders to discuss the contest.

Talk about community service, local government's commitment to citizens and the importance of good leadership. A classroom visit from a local official has a profound impact on the quality of information students possess about municipal government.

- Announcing the community's participation to local newspapers to raise awareness of the important services local government provides Massachusetts' citizens.
- Holding a hometown ceremony at a meeting of your governing board (or at an appropriate event) if one of the winners is from your city/town.

I Commit My Community TODAY!

As the chief municipal official, our community will support the participation of our sixth grade students in the MMA's 2009 Statewide Essay contest.

Please print:

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Fax: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Date: _____

We are in a regional school district: *Please Circle Yes or NO*

If Yes, our 6th graders attend one of our regional school(s): Please Circle Yes or NO

If Yes, please list all communities in your regional 6th grade classroom(s):

Fax back to the MMA by SEPTEMBER 11: (617) 695-1314

Questions? Contact Ellen Stoolmacher or Kristi Williams at the MMA at (800) 882-1498