

Precinct 2 Town Meeting Candidates

Eight to be elected for 3 years, six on the ballot

One to be elected for 1 year, one on the ballot (M. Widom)

One to be elected for 2 years, one on the ballot (S. Ou)

If no candidate profile is shown, the candidate did not submit a profile.

(* indicates incumbent)

Richard Rohan *

Brian Sogoloff *

Soumya Ganapathy *

David Judelson *

djudelson@townmeeting@gmail.com

Community Activities

- Town Meeting Member since 2001
- Was on Town Energy Management Committee from inception for approx... 9 years.
- Member of Sustainable Winchester Environmental Group
- Got the WinPower Community Aggregation program passed through Town Meeting, this program has saved residents tens of thousands of dollars while also keeping electric costs more stable over time and supporting renewable energy generation in New England.

Candidate Statement

What Winchester issues do you think are most important?

- Meeting Town's Climate Goals and preparing for resiliency and mitigation for climate change.
- Supporting more affordable housing for both families and seniors in town
- Supporting the school system and the teachers
- Traffic issues and supporting local businesses.

Of those important issues, which one do you feel most passionate about, and what is your position on that issue?

- I believe meeting the town's climate goals and planning for resiliency will prepare Winchester for continuing climate change issues and save the town literally and financially over time.

What does Winchester do well and what might be improved?

- Winchester is a beautiful, welcoming town with a great school system. I think we can continue to improve the town's communications with its residents. We should continue to work on traffic issues with a focus not just on vehicles but also making Winchester more bike and pedestrian friendly.

The Town Meeting Communications Study Committee has recommended that a written communications plan be prepared and a town communications manager be appointed by FY2025 (https://www.winchester.us/DocumentCenter/View/9219/Communications-Study-Committee_Final-Report_Recommendations). **Do you support both recommendations, even if they would involve adding a new full-time position (salary and benefits) to the town budget? If not, what alternative ideas do you suggest?**

YES, I do support this and as the country has become more divided, clear and transparent communications is the best way to have the entire town's citizens understand what is going on in Town and where it is heading. Conspiracies and misinformation flourish when there is a lack of clear and factual information.

Michael Galvin *

Michelle Blumsack *

Jay Melkonian *

Menina Widom

Shukong Ou

askshukong@gmail.com

Community Activities

Town Meeting Member Precinct 2, Vote01890, Winchester Cultural Council, WCC liaison to Winchester Cultural District, PorchFest Committee and Random Acts of Music, Community Advisor to Winchester Community Music School, Legacy Winchester, Letters Trellis, Town Common, Winchester Artists Network, Winchester News Group, Wilson Forum at the Jenks Center, Shukulele, Privacy Workshop,

Candidate Statement

What Winchester issues do you think are most important?

Better communication within town government and with voters, through the formation of a Winchester Town Meeting Members Association.

Tax growth should be examined from both growth due to need/ inflation and expense sides.
Transparency of what is spent on what, and are we getting appropriate value?
Parking improvements are needed for both residents and businesses.

Of those important issues, which one do you feel most passionate about, and what is your position on that issue?

The Town Meeting Members Association is most important.

What does Winchester do well and what might be improved?

There are many excellent civic and service organizations, and the Chamber of Commerce has a great new visitwinchester.com website. Civility could be improved, and of course parking.

The Town Meeting Communications Study Committee has recommended that a written communications plan be prepared and a town communications manager be appointed by FY2025. Do you support both recommendations, even if they would involve adding a new full-time position (salary and benefits) to the town budget? If not, what alternative ideas do you suggest?

I'm not convinced that a paid full time position is the best initial solution: TownCommon.org and a group seeking to reinstate a working local newspaper, and using tools we already have, should be tried first. For example, there is supposed to be a school event and information channel via ParentSquare for people without students in the schools, but there has been no useful information published through that path.