

Please join **Alderman Ken Parker** in voting for the following candidates in city-wide contested races on **November 8:**

*Alderman-At-Large, Ward 1*

- **Carleton Merrill**
- **Ben Weisbuch**

*Alderman-At-Large, Ward 2*

- **Marcia Johnson**
- **Susan Albright**

*Alderman-At-Large, Ward 3*

- **Ted Hess-Mahan**
- **Leslie Burg**

*School Committee, Ward 6*

- **Claire Sokoloff**

**Leadership  
Vision  
Experience  
New Ideas**

Paid for by the **Committee to Elect Ken Parker**  
965 Walnut St., Newton, MA 02461  
Daniel Golden, *Treasurer*  
[www.kenparker.org](http://www.kenparker.org)

**Alderman Ken Parker**  
965 Walnut St.  
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**Ken Parker**  
**Alderman-At-Large**

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Dear Friends & Neighbors,

I'm proud to represent you on the Newton Board of Aldermen and work hard to make sure that you have a voice at City Hall. Being an Alderman is a team effort, though, and I would not be able to be an effective advocate for you were it not for the hard work, talent, and energy of my colleagues in City government.

**Only by working closely with talented colleagues have I been able to achieve passage of proposals to protect the quality of life in our community** (the smoke-free Newton ordinance, the tree preservation ordinance, water and sewer discounts for low-income seniors, Candadian drug re-importation, expanding Newton's recycling program, affordable housing legislation, and the light pollution ordinance to name a few).

During the new term, I will need the help of colleagues to implement innovative new programs **to improve financial management of City government**, to better maintain our infrastructure, and to make sure that we make efficient use of our limited resources, so that we can provide the quality services Newton residents expect, including world-class schools, public safety that is second to none, libraries that are open when you need them, and well-maintained parks and roads.

That's why I wanted to take the opportunity — in a year in which I do not have an opponent for re-election — to ask not only for your vote for myself, but also for some of the other smart, dedicated people running for office in Newton.

Each of the people I am endorsing in this election brings different talents and experience to the table — and of course we do not all agree about how best to address all of the important issues facing Newton — but **each and every one of them has the skills**

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and dedication needed to make a positive difference in our quality of life.

Thank you for your support and for taking the time to consider my recommendations.

Regards,

Ken

P.S. For more information on what I've been doing as your alderman, please visit my web site, [www.kenparker.org](http://www.kenparker.org) or call me at home at (617) 965-3723.

## Alderman-At-Large, Ward 1

Ward 1 features one of the Board's most experienced public servants, Carelton Merrill, and a talented newcomer, Ben Weisbuch.



**Carelton Merrill** is running for re-election to the Board after having served in City government for more than three decades, including as the City's Director of Veterans Services and Licensing. Carelton has also been active on the Human Rights

Commission. He has dedicated much of his life to helping the needy. His compassion and dedication have inspired generations of Newton officials.

**Ben Weisbuch** is an energetic young lawyer with a passion for public service. A first time candidate for public office, Ben is running on a four-pronged campaign platform: 1) protecting neighborhoods through open space preservation and use of planning tools, 2) improving local services by making efficient use of resources, 3) supporting progressive values, and 4) making government more accessible.



## Alderman-At-Large, Ward 2

Ward 2 features two talented incumbents, Marcia Johnson and Susan Albright, who bring different skills and experience to the Board.



**Marcia Johnson** has been a valuable member of the Board with whom I have worked closely over the course of her six years as an Alderman. Her expertise in personnel matters has been a tremendous asset to the City, as has her focus on improving the way our local government operates and her responsiveness to constituent concerns. Marcy's leadership was instrumental in the passage of the light ordinance, which protects Newton residents from bright illumination shining into windows and the night sky.

**Susan Albright** brings strong analytical skills and valuable insights to our deliberations. Prior to joining the Board two years ago, Susan served on the School Committee, including as its Chair. Her knowledge of the Newton Public Schools and the needs of our school buildings has been valuable during the consideration of the Newton North High School project.



## Alderman-At-Large, Ward 3

In Ward 3, I am proud to support Ted Hess-Mahan, who is seeking re-election and Leslie Burg, a first-time candidate.



**Ted Hess-Mahan** is an environmentalist, an affordable housing advocate, a strong supporter of our schools, and all-around great guy. As a freshman Alderman, Ted jumped right in and made his mark on a number of important issues facing the City. In particular, Ted has worked to

protect open space and to make our local government more open and accountable. Ted Hess-Mahan is a valuable ally in the effort to make important information about the decisions being made at City Hall — and their consequences — available to the public.

**Leslie Burg** is a first-time candidate for the Board of Aldermen with a wealth of real-world experience and a real vision for the future of Newton.

Far from a typical politician, Leslie has focused her campaign on maintaining Newton's diversity because it is something she believes in deeply. She has also raised good ideas for making our government more efficient and taking advantage of available opportunities to increase revenues without placing an additional burden on our most vulnerable citizens.



## School Committee, Ward 6

In addition to my endorsements for the Board of Aldermen, I am making an endorsement in School Committee race from my home ward.

**Claire Sokoloff** is a smart, independent thinker who has put a great deal of thought into the challenges facing the Newton Public Schools.

Specifically, her plan to improve our school system includes: 1) challenging all students with the help of appropriate class sizes and curricula focused on the differing needs of individual students, 2) implementing a multi-year, proactive budgeting process that helps us to reduce costs and focus resources where they can do the most good, 3) making the School Committee more open to public input and less resistant to new ideas, and 4) starting a broader discussion of the learning process and the goals of our school system.

