

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION



Megan Loucas

Democratic Party

Biographical Statement

- Weston Resident for 5 Years
- Licensed Architect with 12 years experience in residential and commercial design
- Specializing in energy efficient and sustainable design
- Elected ZBA Alternate
- Appointed member of the Building Committee
- BA in TV/Film from Northwestern University
- Master in Architecture from UCLA
- Member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA)
- Wife and mother of two girls (6 and 3)

In your opinion, what is the most significant issue facing Weston today?

The most significant issue facing Weston is its lack of services, convenience amenities and community gathering places. We've seen over the past few years how precarious businesses in the town shopping center are and how negative the impact of their closings can be. The Economic Vitality Committee has identified steps the town can take to create opportunities for new businesses and support the ones that already exist. The vitality of our town depends on its ability to retain current residents and attract new ones through services and experiences that are unique to Weston.

Why are running for this specific office and what do you bring to it?

As a residential architect, I frequently read zoning documents; each project starts with local zoning research. I bring my experience with various approaches to managing use and development as well as the ways in which architects and planners work within and draw inspiration from these confines.

I represent the largest age demographic in Weston -- one that is currently absent from Planning and Zoning. It is critical to listen to different voices in the community when making public policy decisions. I bring with me the perspective of a parent, a working professional, a recent transplant, and a fervent supporter of Weston.

What is the most important issue this board/commission faces and how would you potentially address it?

In the coming years, P&Z will work to diversify housing options while maintaining the core characteristics of Weston (2 acre zoning is what has attracted many of us to our town). I would work to further define and develop the affordable housing plan created by the commission in conjunction with diversifying residential zoning for alternative low density housing options. I would use my experience in planning and design to set forth zoning criteria that are compatible with our rural feel as well as push for energy efficiency and sustainability standards to create a precedent for future development.