

## PLANNING AND ZONING



### **Lauren Gojkovich**

Republican Party

#### **Biographical Statement**

Lauren Gojkovich is the founder of LDG Advisory, a strategic shareholder advisory firm. Lauren holds a J.D. from Columbia Law School and a B.A. in public policy studies from Duke University. Lauren is running for the Planning & Zoning Commission, where she is committed to open and transparent processes, which support development that enhances the quality of life of our residents, preserves Weston's natural resources, supports our business community and maintains our small-town character.

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

Weston's local politicians have significant, outsized, influence on the development of town property because the town is uniquely exempted from Weston's own P&Z regulations. This lack of accountability and oversight allowed certain Selectmen to push through a dog park resulting in litigation costing taxpayers +\$100K, and proposals like a pickleball court in the middle of the Village District that the fire department itself rejected. I support policy changes to require the extension of our P&Z regulations to the town. This will result in appropriate development on faster timelines that avoid litigation from our justly frustrated citizens.

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

My husband and I fell in love with Weston and knew we wanted to raise our family here in large part because of the same attributes that the P&Z Commission is charged with protecting and enhancing. It would be an honor to help protect Weston's small-town character, emphasis on stewardship of natural resources and strong commitment to community. I believe my appreciation for what makes our town special, matched with my legal training (I worked as an attorney at Wachtell Lipton and Goldman Sachs) and my commitment to fairness and transparency will serve our citizens well.

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

Too often, personal agendas and overly ambitious confidence in one's own judgment have soured Weston's political process. This is supercharged by the town's special exemption from Weston's P&Z regulations' application to town land development. I am committed to promoting transparency with our citizens – and doing it in a collegial manner. I will do my utmost to ensure the Commission acts squarely within its jurisdiction, applying zoning regulations without fear or favor – not based on an individual Commissioner's idea of "what makes most sense to me" or – more troublingly – "what best advances promises made by my political party's leadership."