

FIRST SELECTMAN



Samantha Nestor

Democratic Party

Biographical Statement

- First Selectwoman 8/2021-present
- Board of Selectmen, Selectwoman 2018-2021;
- Member of the Board of Education, 2017-2018;
- Founding Partner at Chrysanthemum Partners, a Strategic Communications Consulting Firm;
- Extensive Experience in the Not-for-Profit and Art Sectors with Positions at: The Frick Collection, New York Public Library, Elle Decor, and Metropolitan Home Magazine;
- Author of Two Books: The Luxury Bathroom and Living with Wine;
- Graduate of Cornell University, B.A. Art History and

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

With the influx of so many new residents, we must think creatively about balancing generational needs of newcomers and those of longtime residents. We must find common ground and be mindful of Weston's short- and long-term goals of keeping the town safe (ensuring we have proper equipment, facilities, and staffing for public safety and other programmatic needs), rebuilding our infrastructure (roads, bridges, sidewalks, town/schools facilities, upgrading water systems), providing community amenities and programming to connect one another, and creating a healthy and productive work environment for our valued employees in order to provide our residents with the best possible services.

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

I have a vision and roadmap - informed by listening to the community - that will meet the current and emerging needs of Weston. I possess the leadership skills to make that happen, with a commitment to transparency and collaboration. My experience and relationships at local/state/federal levels enables me to seek investments for Weston and maintain the tax burden at a reasonable rate. I have successfully solicited, obtained, or implemented \$35 million in state and federal grants, investing and COMPLETING multiple critical infrastructure projects AND 20 ARPA funded projects including: Lachat Offutt Center, Town Green, Pickleball Courts, and Fire/Rescue truck.

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

The Town's public facilities are deteriorating and we lack infrastructure. While we have initiated the development of a capital/facilities plan report which surveyed precisely what needs to be done, estimated costs, prioritized projects and developed a general grant strategy (and referred a school facilities plan to the BOE), we must now deliver on those plans to improve our schools and other facilities, infrastructure, establish a bonding plan, and provide for solid financial forecasting and sound management practices. Once we have accomplished that, we will need to provide for proper preventive maintenance, program review, and constant vigilance to help ensure sustainability.