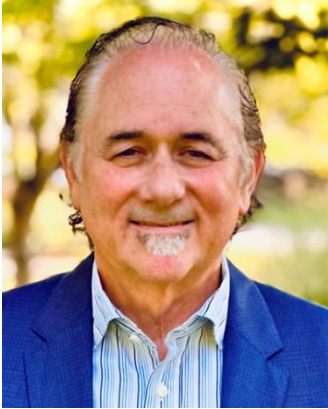


PLANNING AND ZONING



Michael Reiner

Democratic Party

Biographical Statement

- Weston resident for 9 years
- Currently serving on the Weston Planning & Zoning Commission
- Served on the Weston Conservation Commission (5 years)
- Volunteer and project co-leader at The Lachat Town Farm
- Investment Manager and board member for the Sigma Pi Educational Foundation of Cornell University
- BS / Industrial & Labor Relations, Cornell University
- Co-founder / co-owner of Resource International, a product development and sourcing company in the homewares and stationery marketplace(s) for over 25 years.

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

We have had an enormous turnover in our population since the start of covid in 2020. Indeed, it is truly wonderful that our town has become a destination for vibrant, young families. However, we are also losing some beloved long-time residents and thus, part of the “fabric” that has made Weston what it is. Some move away because they wish to experience a new chapter, others because of financial hardship. In either case, maintaining our strong, inter-generational sense of community is critical if the Weston of tomorrow is going to remain this extraordinary place that we all call home.

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

I have been privileged to serve on P&Z for the last several years. I am neither a lawyer, architect nor builder, as are some of my colleagues. What I am as a person and businessman is someone who listens earnestly to the issues that come before the commission and honestly and collaboratively works to apply and implement the relevant rules and regulations to address those issues - and always with the town’s best interest being front and center. I like to believe that I am a thoughtful and conscientious “partner” on this commission, serving ALL my friends and neighbors.

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

Affordable housing is perhaps the #1 issue not only in our town, but in our State. If the State target is not met, developers may propose projects that are not subject to local zoning regulations. As a commission, Planning & Zoning, together with the Town of Weston must continue to develop and refine our vision so that we can meet these objectives, but within the scope of our own regulations. We have begun to address this issue with the new Village District; but there is, of course, more to do.