



ELECTION ~ 2017

ROBIN GRACE SILBERT

CANDIDATE FOR A 3-YEAR TERM AS A LIBRARY TRUSTEE



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Hello, My name is Robin Grace and I am a candidate for library trustee. My husband Ed Silbert and I met in a Cambridge book store and were married at the Unitarian Church on the Great Road. In 1993, we purchased in Bedford because of location and price. We stayed in Bedford because of its many resources. We had no idea that the house we bought would become our forever home and the town we moved to would become our beloved community. Although I grew up in Boston and my husband in Marblehead, we are without question, from Bedford.

The true joy of my life in Bedford is the friendships I have made. That joy has been enhanced by becoming an active member of the community. I have served in the Bedford Public Schools as room parent, library volunteer, trip chaperone as well as band and orchestra mom. I am a past chair of Celebrating Differences, Metco and Hospitality, as well as a past member of POMS and BEF. I organized the first "Champagne and Kleenex" prom night event for parents of graduating seniors. Currently, I serve on the boards of Citizens' Scholarship Foundation, Carlton Willard, and the Friends of the Bedford Public Library.

I have an undergraduate degree in literature from Augusta College in Georgia and a Masters in Journalism from Boston University. After graduate school, I worked as a newspaper reporter for a suburban daily and taught elementary school in Boston before finding my true calling - travel.

I was employed by Collette Travel for six years as a full-time tour manager and currently work for them independently.

Last year, I was invited to participate in the Bedford Strategic Planning focus group and the resulting survey. One of the things we learned is that residents aren't always familiar with the many resources the library has to offer. As a library trustee, I would like to promote greater awareness of the many events, programs and services our library has to offer. I would also like to see more spaces and opportunities for small and large group gatherings. I want to insure that the library is able to stay current with technological advances while maintaining a well-chosen collection. It is my belief that one of the library's most important missions is to foster a love of reading in young people that will continue throughout their lives. I think our library is a wonderful place and I look forward to helping chart its course going forward to meet the needs of our town's changing demographic.