

Catherine A. Thompson

Chilmark MA 02535

August 21, 2018

Mr. Jim Malkin, Chair
Board of Selectmen
Chilmark Town Hall
P.O. Box 119
Chilmark MA 02535

Dear Honorable Board of Selectmen,

This letter requests that you consider me for appointment to fill the vacancy on the Planning Board. It would be meaningful to serve the community again; the Planning Board offers both a familiar and challenging opportunity.

My familiarity with Chilmark includes a lifelong family history of summers, year-round residence for most of the last thirty years, and being Library Director of the Chilmark Free Public Library from December 1988 to June 2006. In that time, my experience included the 1990 and 2003 library expansions. Experience with planning and building includes the library expansions, subdividing family land and building my own home.

I served on the Planning Board from late 2010 to December 2013 as an appointed then elected member; this time included updating the house size bylaws. I've worked with local procedures, town Boards, MA General Laws and federal regulations. I know the town history and issues, the Master Plan and care about our future. Prudent planning is at the heart of community well-being.

My experience extends beyond Chilmark. Before moving here, my work included designing and implementing marketing research projects on a national level. I was in IL from January 2007 to April 2010, being Library Director at the Lake Bluffs Public Library. That position included overseeing a busy community library, facility, budget of \$850,000 and 17 employees (9 FTE). There, we worked with consultants and town boards to prepare a building program that has since been implemented.


After that, I worked with our up-island community as head librarian in Aquinnah until June 2012.

It was with regret that I had to step down in from the Planning Board in 2013 due to the need for prolonged absence, which is no longer an issue.

In all humility, it would be an honor to use my experience with and knowledge of the Planning Board once again. Thank you for considering appointing me.

Please contact me should you have questions.

Sincerely,


Cathy Thompson

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