

## PUBLIC CEREMONIES COMMITTEE

### Minutes of March 13, 2012

- 1) The meeting opened at 7:10 p.m.  
Members present: Richard Turner, John Turchinetz, Lily Ho Schlafer, Richard Brisk and John Dyer.  
Not present were: Evan Barber (Student Member) and Dennis Berry (ex officio).
- 2) Minutes of February, 2011 were corrected to include: Spelling corrected for "Schlafer" in #2, "inviting" in #5, item 7 added.  
The minutes were then accepted as modified.
- 3) Public comment: None
- 4) Correspondence: On March 19, the town will change its email software to Microsoft Exchange Version 7.
- 5) Old Business:  
**Action Item:** R. Turner will talk to Barbara Fletcher about giving the LMC award, at an upcoming School Committee meeting, to Barbara Scheffler for teaching geology to kids.

The LMC award: Appended to these minutes are a copy of the ten (10) emails and letters submitted to Richard Turner by citizens of Wayland for this year's LMC award.

**Action Item: Each PCC member will review the information on the nominees to evaluate each in preparation for selecting this year's LMC winner at our next PCC meeting.**

The attached information highlights the achievements of:

Lea Anderson,  
Lea Anderson, Dianne Blandon and all members of the HS building committee,  
Dossie Kahn,  
Molly Falkner,  
Donna Bouchard  
Margo Melnicove,  
Linda Segal,  
Mary Antes,  
Katrein Vander Straeten.

**We must also consider those nominated for last year's LMC award.**

- 6) Memorial Day: May 28 2012 .  
We need to look ahead to find a color guard and a speaker.

**Action Item:** R. Turner will talk Dana Haganberger (sp?) to see if his son is interested

in taking part in this year's Memorial Day program.

7) **Action Item:** R. Turner will talk to Nancy McShea about:

- 1) Adding names to park bench so as to recognize George and Jim Buckley
- 2) Adding plaque in gardens.

8) 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Approximately 1 year away. John D. reported that

o The committee has met with 3 of Wayland's historical societies to see how they can cooperate on projects for the anniversary.

o Will meet with kids group for planning kids programs.

o Schools have no plans yet. Need to show teachers the benefit of participating.

o Will continue to meet with cluster groups to organize specific programs.

9) The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

The next meeting was set for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3, 2012

Respectfully submitted

Richard Brisk

## **Appendix to minutes of 3/13/2012**

1)

Date: Wed, 1 Feb 2012 14:27:30 -0500

From: donnaolmstead@gmail.com

Subject: Lydia Maria Child Award

To: rickypt@verizon.net

To:

Richard Turner, Chair, Wayland Public Ceremonies Committee, 7 Nob Hill Road, Wayland, MA 01778-2216. Nominations can also be e-mailed to [rickypt@verizon.net](mailto:rickypt@verizon.net).

I would like to nominate Lee Anderson for her outstanding above and beyond time and commitment to attain the completion of the new High School. Wayland has always had a strong reputation for delivering excellent public school education and I thank Lee for working so hard for us to hold onto this reputation. It is education that continues to help all citizens learn to live amongst each other with all our diversities and good schools need to be preserved. Lydia Maria Child would be proud to have Lee Anderson be a recipient of this award.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Olmstead

34 Bow Road

Wayland, MA 01778

[donnaolmstead@gmail.com](mailto:donnaolmstead@gmail.com)

508-735-0535 (mobile)

2)

Date: Thu, 19 Jan 2012 18:55:28 -0500

From: jeffrey.s.baron@gmail.com

Subject: LMC Nominee

To: rickypt@verizon.net

Hi Richard:

I would like to nominate Donna Bouchard for this year's Lydia Maria Child award. If ever there was a resident who served an important need for town residents, it is Donna. First, she co-authored and helped pass the Article at Town Meeting forming the audit committee that uncovered incredible budgeting errors, misstatements, and oversights in the school budget. She then singlehandedly taught herself the intricacies of municipal budgeting, sat through endless committee meetings, asked hundreds of questions, and spent countless hours analyzing figures to help the town residents realize a \$4mn aggregate tax savings and very likely change the entire budgeting process in the town going forward. She then, despite the many roadblocks put in front of her by elected and appointed officials, partnered with other residents to force a Special Town Meeting to allow us all a vote to take back this money -- one which overwhelmingly passed (nearly unanimously) and saved the average household \$1,000 in an economic climate where that savings was much needed.

Donna's tireless efforts to help reform our town's governance and install transparency are an inspiration to us all and I strongly urge you to make her a recipient of this year's award.

Regards,  
Jeff Baron  
153 Woodridge Rd.  
Wayland

3)

Date: Tue, 14 Feb 2012 18:17:03 -0500

From: virginia@thesteels.com

Subject: Nomination for L.M. Child award

To: [rickypt@verizon.net](mailto:rickypt@verizon.net)

I would like to nominate the most outstanding citizen of Wayland with whom I am acquainted:  
Mary Antes.

I do not know all of the ways in which Mary is working to make Wayland and the Wayland area better, but she has told me that her primary focus just now is on the **Habitat for Humanity** project and the celebration of **Wayland's 375<sup>th</sup> birthday**. Mary is Chair of **Wayland's Housing Authority**. Mary is the unofficial chair of the Coordinating Committee of the **League of Women Voters of Wayland**. She was the primary organizer of the League's recent popular forum on water supplies – worldwide, in our watershed, and in Wayland itself. Under her leadership, the Wayland LWV is also preparing for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Wayland-Weston-Sudbury Civics Bee, which will take place in Wayland on March 25. Mary is also active on the **River Stewardship Council**, which coordinates conservation on the 29 miles of the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers that have received Federal "Wild and Scenic" designation. I suggest that you talk with others who can tell you more about all the aspects of life in and around Wayland that benefit from the quiet, efficient, gracious, generous and thoughtful work of Mary Antes.

Submitted by Ginny Steel on Feb. 14, 2012

4)

Date: Tue, 28 Feb 2012 17:18:52 -0500

From: boelter1@verizon.net

Subject: lydia maria childs award

To: rickypt@verizon.net

Dear Mr. Turner and Other Committee Members,

I understand Margo Melnicove has been nominated for the award this year. I write to support that nomination given Margo's longstanding efforts in meeting the needs of the community through providing information about town finances in clear, concise terms.

As you have already heard, Margo took it upon herself to provide information for Wayland residents so they might better understand matters of town government. She was concerned in part about the growing number of people in Wayland living on fixed incomes who might be forced out of their homes because of higher property taxes. She recognized the value these residents bring to town affairs given their long history here, their previous involvement in town affairs and their concern for the town's future. She knew that many of these people were feeling marginalized, some because of age and mobility limitations, and some because they felt the town budget discussions were far too complicated for them to grasp when everyday chores consumed so much time and energy. Margo has addressed their needs as well as many younger residents'.

She carefully studied town issues and presented information in the Wayland Voters Network, which she initiated. She discovered that many residents were eager for such information, but lacked her knowledge about securing the answers to these questions. The WVN provided a much-needed resource for informing concerned residents.

In addition, Margo tirelessly leafleted door to door to let voters know ballot and ATM issues in language all residents could understand and use. She gave voters the tools they needed to carry out their responsibilities as informed citizens. Too often heretofore, residents have been puzzled by the acronyms and "government speak" used by elected and appointed officials in their public pronouncements. Margo's leaflets have helped residents overcome that hurdle and feel informed. These residents feel empowered once again. They will make the effort to participate now because they know what is at stake and that their opinion matters.

Just as Lydia Maria Childs' messages were not always popular with the establishment, Margo's may have been perceived as contrary to the official line from the Town. However, time has shown that Margo's messages and persistence in her outreach have brought financial savings to the town -- e.g. for the construction of the new high school, and then later with careful consideration of budget items that warrant closer study before a vote. Her message has been heard and I believe that residents will be coming forward to ask more questions and to insist that elected and appointed Town officials propose careful spending plans going forward. This will enable the Town to sustain a diverse population consistent with its history and not force the elderly and those of modest income to leave the town they have loved and served heretofore.

Wayland will be a stronger community because of Margo's determination to disseminate clear and truthful information about important decisions facing the town.

Thank you for your consideration of Margo Melnicove for the award this year.

Alice Boelter

106 Lake Shore Dr.

Wayland

--

Boelter & Associates

106 Lake Shore Dr.

Wayland, MA 01778

508.650.3592

5)

Date: Tue, 31 Jan 2012 11:33:50 -0500

From: kpcurtin@comcast.net

Subject: Lydia Maria Childs nomination

To: rickypt@verizon.net

Greetings

I would like to nominate Lea Anderson, Dianne Bladon and all members of the High School Building Committee for this year's Lydia Maria Childs award. This group of volunteers has officially met more than 127 times as seen in their circulated minutes. Their time in service to this town far beyond the minutes of those meetings. They have involved community members in all phases of the project. They have met regularly to listen to community feedback and concern as the project has been built. They have helped to provide the Wayland community with a wonderful new facility that is accessible and safe for our students and our community. I believe that this committee is a group of outstanding citizens that should be recognized and thanked for working with many of the town boards in a collaborative fashion and for improving the community's quality of life by providing not only accessible educational space but quality meeting and performance space. The needs served by this new building go way beyond those of the students. The new space for WayCam and the new technology utilized is clearly improving the quality of the programming seen.

This group of citizens should be thanked and acknowledged on the floor of town meeting and receive this award with the town's thanks and praise.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathy Curtin

6)

Dear Mr. Turner,

I would like to nominate Linda Segal. I feel she exemplifies what it means to be an outstanding citizen. For her contributions to many boards and committees over the years. She cares about doing the right thing for all, and has been an excellent listener as well as an excellent problem solver. I have great admiration and respect for her. Her critical thinking skills are high above those of her peers. Please consider her for this award.

Sincerely,

Catherine Balben(I have been a Wayland resident for 50 years)

9 Quincy Road

Cochituate ,Ma

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, transmission, re-transmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer. Click 'Edit HTML' to insert an HTML disclaimer

7)

Date: Mon, 20 Feb 2012 10:42:40 -0500

From: susan@susankeyes.com

Subject: Nomination for the Lydia Marie Childs Award

To: rickypt@verizon.net

CC: susan@susankeyes.com

Dear Mr. Turner:

I can think of no finer example of a private citizen's outstanding dedication to the betterment of the community than Lea Anderson, the chairperson of the building committee for the new high school. Lea's 10 years of dedication to this complex, sometimes controversial, forward-looking investment for our town exemplifies the highest performance of civic duty.

Please consider Lea Anderson as a recipient of this important award.

Thank you.

Susan Keyes

91 East Plain Street

Wayland, MA 01778

susan@susankeyes.com

8)

Date: Tue, 31 Jan 2012 09:07:13 -0500

From: roger@rhprmarketing.com

Subject: Re: Lydia Maria Child nomination

To: rickypt@verizon.net

Hi Richard,

I'd like to add another nomination:

Dossie Kahn, Assistant Director of Wayland's Youth and Family Services. Her quiet, confidential work has developed coping skills in countless Wayland teens that have enabled them to successfully weather personal struggles as she knits support networks of parents, school guidance counselors and physicians. Kids and parents alike appreciate her sincere and knowledgeable care.

Thanks again,

Roger

9)

February 8, 2012

Dear Wayland Public Ceremonies Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate Ms. Margo Melnicove for the 2012 Lydia Maria Child Award!

For the past decade, Margo Melnicove has exemplified the spirit and tenacity of Lydia Maria Child in so many ways here in Wayland.

In pursuit of equity and the full engagement and enfranchisement of *all* Wayland citizens in their government, Margo Melnicove, like Lydia Maria Child, has brought her professional journalistic, editorial and teaching skills to bear on important issues facing Wayland citizens and taxpayers, and has done so fearlessly and with great passion and conviction.

Margo conceived of and founded *Wayland Voters Network* (WVN) in January 2004. As the Chairperson of WVN, she authored the very first edition of WVN on March 2, 2004 and authored and published many newsletters as Editor. At the dump, town meetings and door-by-door, she tirelessly collected emails and addresses from Wayland citizens who wanted to be informed about what was going on in Town government. *WVN* has many readers today and is a unique, important and trusted source of Wayland governmental and political information.

Again, in January 2005, when a vote to build a new High School lacking the proper due diligence with respect to securing state funding was put on the ballot, Margo's leadership and perseverance, expert communications and tireless door-to-door informing, convinced fellow Wayland citizens and taxpayers to go to the polls in record numbers to vote *against* the haphazard proposal that would have cost them many tens of millions of dollars more than necessary. Thanks to Margo's due diligence, when a new Wayland HS was built, it was built with the MA School Building Authority funding 40% of the cost which saved Wayland taxpayers on the order of \$30 million dollars.

For the past several years, at Annual Town Meeting, Margo has also successfully led and empowered taxpayers in questioning and amending the omnibus budget and removing unnecessary or duplicative spending. Her leadership has resulted in saving Wayland taxpayers nearly \$2 million dollars in capital spending from the past several fiscal budgets.

Last Fall, during one of the most personally challenging times of her life, Margo Melnicove's leadership in communications and getting-out-the-

vote, made it possible for the taxpayers of Wayland to reject an on average \$1,000 FY12 tax bill increase at Special Town Meeting 2011.

As the lead petitioner who initiated the petition to hold a Special Town Meeting this past November, I can unequivocally say that Margo made successful passage of Article 3 possible. Margo masterminded two key voter informational flyers, handed out before and at STM, which were instrumental in providing Wayland taxpayers and voters the financial facts and perspective about our proposed Article 3 to change the FY12 budget funding and prevent an 8% tax increase. For the three weeks leading up to STM, with a projected attendance of 200-300 voters, Margo rallied troops she mustered to go door to door with her and, voter by voter, explain and show to them what was at stake and how important it was for them to attend STM and exercise their legislative rights. In our present day and age where impersonal email blasts inundate us, the personal contact and information sharing on people's porches and in their living rooms made all the difference.

Additionally, Margo set up a number of information sessions at voters' homes in neighborhoods throughout Wayland. She crafted and distributed invitations to these coffees and gatherings where I and other lead petitioners had the opportunity to speak to voters and answer their questions and engage them in the process of STM.

On the evening of STM, Margo personally transported a number of voters to the Middle School, among them, a voter in a body cast, and several seniors in wheelchairs, who, despite their mobility challenges, insisted on going to STM and having their voices heard. Until the gavel came down to begin STM, Margo greeted hundreds of voters at the Middle School door with the informational flyers she had printed, which were instrumental to the success of Article 3. As a result of Margo's supreme get-out-the-vote leadership, **860** voters, more than 3 times the number of voters expected, came to Special Town Meeting on November 17, 2011.

As I gave my speech in support of Article 3, which Margo helped me write and coached me on delivery, I recognized so many of the faces of our Wayland neighbors who we met in the door-to-doors and at the coffees and gatherings. In a world and a time in which texting, tweeting and email blasts are the norm, Margo knew and it was clear that it was the personal contact which makes all the difference. I've learned so much from Margo about what matters and what makes the difference that I feel truly mentored and blessed. I will never forget the hugs and thanks by Waylanders at and on various street corners and on sidewalks during the many months since Special Town Meeting.

Like Lydia Maria Child, Margo Melnicove's courage, leadership and mentorship in Wayland have served as inspiration and she has made



exemplary and lasting contributions which have set an example for other citizens to get involved and drive change to meaningfully and measurably improve the the town's governance and our community's quality of life.

I am proud to have the opportunity to nominate Margo Melnicove for the 2012 Lydia Maria Child award. I hope that you agree that Margo is most deserving of this wonderful recognition.

Thank You,  
Kim Cook

10)

February 29, 2012

Molly Faulkner, Andrea Case, and Christina Veal, nominate Katrien Vander Straeten for the 2012 Lydia Maria Child Award for recognition of her community work in the areas of conservation and sustainability and for her efforts to make connections among the citizens of Wayland. Katrien (or Kaat), a mom of one, moved to Wayland in 2008 with her husband Satra Ghosh. A student of philosophy by training, Kaat is all about resilience and adaptability and building a strong community. She believes that a town with many strong communal ties will be ready to adapt to changing circumstances, e.g. global warming and an unsustainable reliance upon fossil fuels. A big part of this is to ensure food safety by making eating and growing food ecologically sound and local once again. A natural organizer, she has been an agent of change at home, at her daughter's school, and in her community, Wayland.

### **AT HOME**

#### **FOR HER HOUSEHOLD FOOD, KAAT**

- grows as much food as they can (2012 = 4th year gardening, fruit trees) and put up as much as they can of the season's local crop for the winter by canning, root cellaring and freezing
- buys in season (e.g., she doesn't buy tomatoes in winter)
- keeps bees for pollination and honey (2012 = 3rd year, 1 hive, seeking to expand)
- buys locally grown foods at the local Farmer's Market
- uses only natural gardening practices in her garden (compost!)
- grows a winter harvest in [her hoop house](#)

#### **TO SAVE ENERGY, KAAT**

- sets the thermostat at 59 F in Winter
- generates most of her heat from a super-efficient wood stove and wood harvested on her own property
- has a fully insulated house and super-efficient oil burner nor does she use AC
- uses the lowest temperature water necessary when doing dishes and laundry, then hanging [laundry out to dry](#)
- makes electricity by harvesting the sun's energy with solar panels (new in 2011). You can follow her solar harvest online: <http://enlighten.enphaseenergy.com/public/systems/Tyt725743>

#### **TO REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE, KAAT**

- [composts](#) kitchen scraps, grass clippings from friends and neighbors (she doesn't have a lawn) and fall leaves
- recycles everything possible, leaving just one small shopping bag of trash a week
- uses Freecycle and exchanging baby/children's clothes, toys and books, and tools, with friends
- uses no paper napkins/towels at home and only the minimum at restaurants
- calls up junkmail/catalogue companies and request being taken off their mailing lists (it works: most will).
- Brings her own canvas bags to shop.
- Never buys bottled water (according to the Whole Foods "[The Whole Earth Weigh-In](#)" pamphlet, "80% of the 25 billion single-serving plastic water bottles Americans use each year end up in landfills.")

### ***AT SCHOOL/IN THE COMMUNITY***

Because such efforts cannot remain within the household level and be really effective, she started work at the school and community level by joining the Wayland Green Team and initiating [Transition Wayland](#). Kaat is the GT representative for Loker School and Happy Hollow.

### **TRANSITION WAYLAND**

Kaat is the spark and inspiration behind Transition Wayland, a "co-founder" she says in April 2011, with people who want to respond to uncertain times with solutions and optimism, and, in a world awash with gloom, to tell a story of hope, ingenuity and people power. At bottom, it is "community building" for the early 21<sup>st</sup> century. From a first meeting in the Raytheon Room in April 2011 this group has grown and celebrated its 9 month life with the recent prescreening of a film, "In Transition 2.0", at the Senior Center on Feb. 2, with over 50 people present. Kaat introduced the movie by pointing out that Wayland was one of only 15 communities in the world to prescreen it before the official release at the end of March. The one-hour film shows neighbors helping neighbors move beyond fossil fuels and build a resilient and sustainable local economy and community in the face of climate change, peak oil and economic uncertainty. [www.transitionwayland.org](http://www.transitionwayland.org) is the website designed and maintained by Kaat, is a dynamic and informative resource for our community. There one can find information about Wayland Walks, where we can celebrate our town's conservation efforts by systematically walking Wayland's trails, one by one exploring existing public Wayland pathways. This is a project of TW, the Nature Chaplaincy Program of Mayan Tikal, the Peace Lutheran Church and Church of the Holy Spirit.

Another special project of Transition Wayland is BEElieve. Wayland BEElieve is a bee-enthusiast club to support beekeepers, exchange stories, educate the public about bees, help others in Wayland get started, and pool orders for bees and beekeeping supplies. The BEElieve group met most recently on February 16 and included gardeners interested in using bees to pollinate and improve flower, vegetable and fruit tree yields.

## WAYLAND SCHOOLS' GREEN TEAM

Prior to starting TW, Kaat was an active member of the Wayland Public Schools' Green Team, [www.waylandgreenteam.org](http://www.waylandgreenteam.org), an organization started in January 2009 as a task force under then Superintendent of Schools Dr. Gary Burton to see how we could "green up" the schools. Kaat joined in October 2010 -- just in time to take a leadership role in planning Earth Day 2011 at the DPW and to help build large composting bins at Claypit Hill School where food scraps from the kitchen and cafeteria are "recycled" into garden soil—Kaat always came with a full and sophisticated set of carpentry tools in the back of her Volvo wagon. When school opened in September 2011, she was a consistent presence in the CHS cafeteria where she helped to teach children how to separate recyclables from trash from compostables; total waste (that is, trash formerly sent to the landfill, now to the incinerator) was reduced by half due to composting and better recycling of plastics. Not only did she design and maintain the Green Team's website, she was building composting bins at Claypit and the Middle School. At Happy Hollow, where her daughter Amie is in first grade, Kaat worked with the principal, teachers, lunchroom staff and custodian to figure out ways in which recycling can be accelerated and improved there. And, last fall, she led the effort to build eight small raised bed gardens at Happy Hollow as well as working hard to fill them with compost and loam brought by the DPW. She plans on working with the teachers and their students in the gardens.

Lastly, Kaat blogs on environmental topics: <http://blog.bolandbol.com/about/>, works with Don Ouelette to encourage the planting of fruit-bearing trees (to further strengthen the community) to the Hannah Williams Park, will be leading high school students to film the trajectory of a piece of trash (similar to Weston Talks Trash project), and is likely to be the Wayland "solar coach" , working with Anne Harris of the Energy Committee and the Solarize MASS project.

And all of this, in English, not her native language. Kaat is a Flemish, i.e., Dutch-speaking Belgian, who came to Boston University where she earned a PhD in philosophy and met and married her husband Satra. They moved to Rice Spring Lane in 2008. In three short years, she brought together groups of people from many different walks of life and communities to join together to share in the passion of our planet. She does not judge, but rather leads by example. She heads up and attends numerous meetings per week, often with her young daughter in tow.



Kaat with Happy Hollow students building raised bed gardens, fall 2011

Thank you.

Molly Faulkner 9 Bennett Road  
Andrea Case 112 Old Connecticut Path  
Christina Veal 8 Cottage Road