

Correspondence received by the
Concord Select Board
Week Ending – August 19, 2024

1. Curtis Gekle - 44 Blue Jay Drive
2. Natalie Sciacca - 44 Blue Jay Drive
3. Wilson Kerr - 20 Damon Street
4. William Roger Rush - 67 Conant Street
5. K.C. Winslow - 160 Lindsay Pond Road
6. Joan Campbell - 254 Fairhaven Road
7. Robin Baughman - 144 Southfield Road
8. Joe Laurin - 134 Southfield Road
9. Courtland Booth - 144 Wright Road

Hello Concord Select Board,

In my opinion, the only flags that should be hanging from Concord, MA public flag poles should be the American flag, MA State flag, Middlesex County flag (if there is one), and the Concord town flag. I do not believe that we should have any other flags flying on our public flag poles.

We can't afford the potential lawsuits nor the potential disagreements that will inevitable happen as various groups request to hoist their flags on Concord poles. Not to mention the time that the Select Board would need to put in with each flag request. I think the Select Board has a lot of other topics to focus on and this should not include flag poles.

Please limit what flags fly on Concord poles.

Thanks,

Curtis Gekle

44 Blue Jay Drive

Concord, MA 01742

Dear Concord Select Board,

I believe we need to limit which flags that are hung in Concord. The only ones that should be hung from the public flag poles in Concord are the American flag, MA state flag and the Concord town flag. I don't think that we should have any other flags flying on the public flag poles.

By flying other flags, it will create many disagreements with many groups wanting to fly their flag. It will also create an excess of time and energy to deal with the flag requests when there are many other issues that need to be addressed.

Please consider limiting the flags that are flown on our town poles.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kindest regards,

Natalie Sciacca

44 Blue Jay Drive

Concord, MA 01742

Select Board,

I am writing to urge the Select Board to listen to and respect the clear and unambiguous message sent this morning by the CMSBC, to NOT expand their charter to enable the addition of an individual (initiated by a request made to you by this same individual).

At the meeting, not a single comment indicated any need or skill set "gap" or supported this proposed change. The vote on the motion made (to ask you to NOT change their charter to add this individual) was overwhelming at 9:2. It was also made clear that all past committee members would be honored for their service.

Thank you,

Wilson

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Wilson Kerr

20 Damon St.

Concord

Dear Select Board members,

As a homeowner and taxpayer in Concord, I urge you to support the below motion at your August 19th vote....

The Building Committee has managed the construction of CMS's Ellen Garrison Building on schedule and under budget. The Committee does not believe that its membership should be expanded and voted accordingly. I would ask the Select Board act in a transparent and collaborative manner and respect the wishes of the Building Committee.

Thank you.

W Roger Rush

67 Conant St

Hello Select Board:

The Building Committee has managed the construction of CMS's Ellen Garrison Building on schedule and under budget. The Committee does not believe that its membership should be expanded and voted accordingly. I would ask the Select Board act in a transparent and collaborative manner and respect the wishes of the Building Committee.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

K.C. Winslow

160 Lindsay Pond Road

The Building Committee has managed the construction of CMS's Ellen Garrison Building on schedule and under budget. The Committee does not believe that its membership should be expanded and voted accordingly. I would ask the Select Board act in a transparent and collaborative manner and respect the wishes of the Building Committee.

Joan Campbell

254 Fairhaven Road

Concord MA

Subject: Change of Charter for CMSBC

Some people who received this message don't often get email from robinlynn@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

Dear Select Board,

I am writing to express my discontent over the recent initiative to change the charter of the CMSBC to include an additional member. This committee has worked tirelessly over the past several years, and continues to do so in a professional, transparent, and efficient manner. For the SB to go behind closed doors and seek to change a committee's charter without discussion, transparency, nor involvement from the actual committee is EXACTLY what so many of us DO NOT want to see happen by a Select Board!! How many times must the citizens of this town plead for a SB that serves this town in a meaningful, and more importantly, transparent manner? This latest initiative is the antithesis of such.

Please give the CMSBC and our town the respect we deserve and cease these back-room politics. The CMSBC is one of the strongest, well-run, and appropriately represented committees this town has. Please let them continue their excellent work and progress and get back to what a SB should be focusing on.

Sincerely,

Robin Baughman

144 Southfield Rd

Subject: CMSBC charter change and expansion

Dear Select Board,

I am writing to express my concern over the recent initiative by Mary Hartman and Mark Howell to change the charter of the CMSBC to include an additional (and controversial) member. This “behind closed doors” attempt to go around due process and Town rules and to subvert discussion, transparency and CMSBC input (i.e., by abusing the Consent Agenda), is contrary to how the SB should be conducting itself. It’s disappointing that citizens have to continually keep an eye on members of the SB to ensure they are following the rules they’ve sworn to uphold.

Further, the explanation for the proposed change given at the recent SB meeting (i.e., that is was to “recognize the past contributions” of a former member) was clearly disingenuous. Instead, this has been a bold-faced attempt to stack the CMSBC with someone who would be disruptive and sympathetic to a particular agenda.

Please give the CMSBC and our Town the respect we deserve, abandon the proposal to modify the CMSBC charter, and cease this kind of back-room politicking.

Sincerely,

Joe Laurin

134 Southfield Rd

Courtland Booth

144 Wright Rd
Concord Mass. 01742
(978) 758-9599
courtbooth@gmail.com

August 17, 2024

Dear Select Board members,

I write to withdraw my request to continue as a volunteer member of the Middle School Building Committee. A majority of the members considered it necessary to express that they have all the necessary skills and attributes for success within the current group and desire no change in the current composition. I mistakenly believed that my experience with the project from its very inception, and my decades of work in the public schools, and in construction sales for athletic facilities, as well as other community activities, might have provided useful insight and perspective. I especially valued the responsibility for chairing the Design Subcommittee, and trust that we'll soon open an award-worthy school. However, I accept that I cannot contribute further if my service is not wanted.

I regret that my well-intended request, and Select Board response that assumed good intentions on my part, was made controversial by several people I've yet to meet. I look forward discussing their concerns if they wish. In the meantime, my public service to the schools and on the Building Committee is on the record, and always available on public access video, for those seeking an informed opinion.

I wish the Building Committee continued success and know that they will take great pride in opening a soon-to-be superior new educational facility.

Thank you for your consideration, and the integrity with which you lead.

Sincerely,

Court Booth

cc: Middle School Building Committee