

Catherine A. Thompson
43 Menemsha Inn Road
Chilmark MA 02535
508-645-9580 (home)
cathcat2000@yahoo.com

September 15, 2010

Board of Selectmen
Chilmark Town Hall
P.O. Box 119
Chilmark MA 02535

Dear Honorable Board of Selectmen,

I would like to be considered to be appointed as a member of the Chilmark Planning Board. I had written an earlier version of this letter a month ago, and am sending a more detailed letter, per Tim Carroll's suggestion.

I have watched the town change considerably over the course of my lifetime, first as a seasonal visitor and then as a year-round resident since 1988, with three years off-island recently. Since moving back full-time in April, I've looked for a suitable volunteer opportunity to serve the town. My experience and skill set would be a good fit with the Planning Board. I prepared three five-year plans for the library with the aid of community research, worked with MA General Laws closely, and voted as an informed citizen on Chilmark by-laws. My personal history with the planning board includes overseeing the subdivision of our family land, building my own home, the library renovation/expansion, and gaining information about neighborhood changes. It would be a welcome opportunity to serve to further the town's master plan, cope with changing conditions, and work to meet our needs in a prudent manner.

As Library Director in Chilmark from 12/88 to 6/06, and a past member of the School Advisory Board, I have been involved in some key planning issues in town. I have served on the Board of the MA Center for the Book, and the New England Library Association Conference Committee. From 1/07 to 4/10, I was in Illinois as Library Director at the Lake Bluff Public Library, Trustee and Head of the Alumni Board for North Shore Country Day School, Illinois Library Association Intellectual Freedom Committee member, and as member/officer of the Lake Bluff-Lake Forest Rotary Club. Currently, my part-time position as head librarian in Aquinnah offers time to devote to community service.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please contact me should you have questions.

Sincerely,



Cathy Thompson