

REC'D
SELECTMEN
ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

June 18, 2020

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Members of the Arlington Select Board:

I was delighted to hear of the Arlington School Committee Representative opening on the Minuteman School Committee and I enthusiastically submit this cover note and my attached resume as my application for appointment.

I would bring to the Minuteman School Committee position the hearty blend of educational, finance, and governance expertise the role requires. My affiliation with Minuteman began eight years ago, when our daughter Julia entered ninth grade in the fall of 2012. I served seven years as a member of the Advisory Board for the Engineering and Robotic shops, advising teachers on curriculum and helping students in the technology courses connect with mentors in the workplace. For three years I was co-chair of the board and its representative to Minuteman's General Advisory Board. Working with Minuteman's Superintendent and administration, our General Advisory Board responsibilities included gaining final approval from the state's School Building Authority (MSBA) for a new school building, convincing the member towns to pay for it, and promoting the value of Minuteman's experiential approach to learning to the new students who would fill it.

I'm proud to say we succeeded in all three endeavors. We gained MSBA approval in January 2016 for a new school. That June, I led the successful campaign for an Arlington tax override to fund our share of the cost, and in September we won the vote across all 16 towns then in the regional school district to launch the project. Today, as you know, the new school is open, fully enrolled, and with a waiting list of students who would like to attend.

I played a role in Minuteman's past; now I would like to turn my time and attention to Minuteman's future. Challenges ahead include continuing to prepare and pass a budget that can adequately fund hands-on vocational education; maintaining state-of-the-art curriculum for the workforce of tomorrow; and fostering deeper corporate/community connections so that all Minuteman students can benefit from internships and employment. My personal traits and experience have prepared me to do all this successfully. As I entered my 20th year as an elected Town Meeting Member this past week, I am very familiar with the municipal funding process and budget cycle for Minuteman. I've attended numerous Finance Committee meetings and understand the process thoroughly. I know how to address voter questions or concerns and can advocate effectively--just as I have already done--for Minuteman's success. In addition to my lengthy service as a Town Meeting Member, I have also served on multiple Town Boards and Committees, including a decade as an appointed member of the Arlington Historical Commission; Arlington's 200th Anniversary Committee; the Thompson School Rebuild Committee; and the Arlington High School Educational Visioning Committee.

Presentation skills, and the ability to interact with individuals from all levels ranging from

students to Town Managers, are a hallmark trait of mine. I have demonstrated these skills in various forums, both on the floor of Town Hall and through ACMI presentations, as well as lectures to the Arlington Historical Society. As a former classroom teacher myself--and, of course, a parent of a Minuteman graduate--I feel very comfortable connecting with the elementary, middle, and high school leaders as well as students and parents, to increase the awareness of Minuteman as a good option for Arlington students.

I am more than willing to attend all required or optional professional development sessions run by MASC. I will serve on whichever subcommittee needs my help; I can see making an immediate contribution to the Finance and Enrollment subcommittees and working with the General Advisory Board. I am accustomed to ongoing professional development and ethics requirements, both from my annual disclosure requirements as a Commonwealth of Massachusetts employee, and as a licensed real estate sales agent.

I hope to have a chance to answer any questions you might have in person. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A. Michael Ruderman

Arlington MA 02474

A. MICHAEL RUDERMAN

, Arlington, MA 02474 •

Summary: Senior analytical manager skilled in complex legal processes and systems in public/private partnerships. Superior communicator adept at consensus building and mediation among divergent stakeholders. Focused on continuous process improvement within tight financial and staffing constraints.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MassDOT Highway Division, Right of Way Bureau

RIGHT OF WAY AGENT III

District 4: Arlington, MA

Serve as lead agent for team. Promoted twice since initial hire. Negotiate documents for easements, land takings, and damage agreements with property owners affected by highway construction projects. Conduct public hearings to disseminate project information, gather community input, and allay concerns. Coordinate and document actions of state and federal offices for most efficient highway repair and for least deleterious impact on neighborhoods and individuals.

Oversee the work of Right of Way Agents I and II as assigned. Organize and lead special projects as requested by the Projects Administrator and the Right of Way Director, including the adoption of Windows SharePoint Services as the paperless medium of information exchange and project tracking within Right of Way.

Manage the activities of Right of Way's Conveyancing Section, including assigning work to outside examiners, conducting and reviewing title examinations. Provide supervision, training and technical assistance to other Mass. Highway employees on land takings, relocations of business and homeowners; make on-site visits to properties and structures; conduct research at various sources of property data; respond to information and evidence requests from lawyers, engineers, construction managers, and appraisers from outside of Mass. Highway. (2005 to present)

VERITAS INFORMATION SERVICES

Arlington, MA

FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT

Managed all aspects of a real estate title examination business whose clients were primarily lawyers with practices in conveyancing, estate planning, commercial land development and civil litigation. Principal responsibilities included budgeting, marketing and quality assurance. Hired and supervised staff and subcontractors.

Performed and reviewed over 7500 real estate title examinations on properties throughout New England, including extensive work in residential real estate, and specializing in commercial parcels and land development. Searched probate records to confirm or establish ownership by bequest or succession. Resolved ownership of lost and disputed tracts in preparation for Land Court decrees. (1992 to 2005)

CLOSINGS, LTD.

Needham, MA

CHIEF TITLE EXAMINER

Principal title examiner for a residential mortgage closing company founded in 1988, employing 60 persons in 5 offices in New England. Examined real estate titles throughout Massachusetts. Directed the work of 9 staff examiners, one title coordinator, and 75 independent contractors. (1989 to 1992)

MASSACHUSETTS BAY TITLE COMPANY, INC.

PRESIDENT

New Bedford, MA

Created, developed and managed a title examination business serving southeastern Massachusetts. (1984-1988)

Other Experience

Arlington MA Town Government:

- Arlington Community Media Inc. (ACMi) Treasurer and board member (2015 to present)
- Town Meeting Member [elected] (2001 to present)
- School Facilities Working Group (2005-2007)
- 200th Anniversary Committee (2006-2007)
- Historical Commission (1997-2007)

Teaching and Education:

- Minuteman High School (Lexington MA): Engineering and Robotics Advisory Board, member and Co-Chair (2012-2019)
- Northeastern University (University College), Boston, MA: Created curriculum for and taught RE 4305: Real Estate Title Examination (1993-1994)
- Friends Academy, North Dartmouth, MA: Taught grades 7-9 foreign languages (1983-1984)
- Rochester Memorial School, Rochester, MA: Taught K-5 gifted and talented enrichment (1982-1983)

Non-profit involvement:

- Harvard Band Foundation: Clerk and member of the Board of Directors (1986 to present)
- Massachusetts Historical Commission: conference planning and instructional materials review (2002-2004)
- Habitat for Humanity of Boston: Site Acquisition Committee (1999-2001)
- Boy Scouts of America (Old Colony Council): Camp Squanto Alumni Association (1990 to present)
- Blue Hills Trailside Museum (Canton MA): fundraiser and planner (1996-1999)

Education, Credentials, Publications

HARVARD COLLEGE: A.B. awarded 1982, with concentration in European and American History

UNIVERSITY of MASSACHUSETTS at LOWELL: graduate-level courses in Highway Engineering, Geographic Information Systems, and Housing Policy and Statistics

LICENSE: Massachusetts Real Estate Salesperson No. 9023257 (July 2020 renewal in process)

PUBLISHED in *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly, Arlington Advocate, New England Business Journal, and Harvard Magazine.*

References and publications are available upon request.