

Kelly Karp – Candidate Statement – Parks & Recreation Commission

Dear Neighbors,

My name is Kelly Karp and I am running for a seat on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

I have lived in Hopkinton for 11 years with my husband Brian and two daughters Elizabeth (15) and Emily (13). Simply stated, I love Hopkinton. For me, this is not a political endeavor, but rather an opportunity to volunteer and give back to the community I love so much.

Both of my girls have participated in the Parks and Recreation summer camps and youth soccer programs. For the last several years I have played in the Women's Softball league and last fall I worked closely with the Parks and Recreation department to develop and launch the first Women's Flag Football League in Hopkinton. It was a very successful, collaborative effort. With the assistance of the Parks and Recreation department we received national sponsorship from NFL Flag Football and were able to create 4 teams with approximately 40 participants. I realized then that there was an ongoing demand for high quality athletic programs for adults, as well as for our children. I would love to have the opportunity to bring more of these programs to our community.

Throughout my professional career I have been recognized as a results driven, dynamic leader. I have a very strong operational background which includes project management, strategic planning, financial administration, process improvement, and policy development. I understand how important it is to listen objectively, to consider all points of view, and to deliver a solution that is best for the overall community.

The Parks and Recreation department provides Hopkinton with high quality athletic programs, enriching community arts programs, maintenance of our beautiful parks, trails, fields and common areas, and provides the foundation for many important sub committees within the town. The Parks and Recreation department has the ability to bring us all together - whether it be on the soccer fields cheering our kids on to victory or the common enjoying a Sat night concert. It is an important part of our community.

As Commissioner, I will listen to you. I will help identify the growing needs of our community and work in partnership with the department to ensure they are met in a fiscally responsible way. I will work to ensure that our facilities and grounds remain safe and well maintained. I will look to expand the offering of adult athletic programs and continue to improve upon our excellent offering of youth and cultural arts programs while keeping fees stable and balanced.

I would be honored to represent you on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Please vote for me on May 16th – I will not let you down!