

THE BEDFORD CITIZEN

Robert N. Schmalz – Candidate for Housing Authority

Caucus Nominee – Running to fill the unexpired term to which he was recently appointed



Events:

No events scheduled at this time

Contact information:

Phone: 781-538-5887

Email

schmalzrobert@comcast.net

No website or Facebook page

Candidate Questions

The Bedford Citizen has posed the following questions to Candidate Schmalz. His answers are below, but because he will be out of town, he will not submit a final candidate statement.

What are the biggest challenges facing the Housing Authority?

The biggest challenge to the Housing Authority is to assure a high quality of living at all the units that it manages and maintains and to receive adequate resources to continue its mission in Bedford.

What financial support, if any, do you see coming from the state for constructing new units and/or rehabbing existing units?

Given the constraints on state financial resources, I do not foresee substantial additional support for public housing in the near future. The Housing Authority is fortunate to be able to access state funds through the Community Preservation Act for affordable housing and the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust for its current program to rehabilitate units at Ashby Place.

Candidate statement

I am pleased to have this opportunity to explain my candidacy for the Board of the Bedford Housing Authority. I was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board in December of 2014 and now I am a candidate for the remaining four years of that term.

I moved to Carleton-Willard Village and Bedford in October of 2013. I have always participated in the civic and political life of the communities where I have lived. While in New Haven, Connecticut I practiced Law for forty years and during that time I was Chair of the New Haven Housing Authority, President of the New Haven

Board of Parks and Recreation and, for eight years, served as an elected member of the New Haven Board of Aldermen, the legislative body for that city.

After moving to Boston in 2001 I was a member of the Board of Directors of The Trustees of Reservations and served as Chair of the Boston Natural Areas Network, now an affiliate of The Trustees.

The Bedford Housing Authority provides affordable housing for people of low and moderate income. This includes 80 units of Elderly/Handicapped housing at Ashby Place and other subsidized housing units of Veterans/Family housing. The Housing Authority is currently updating the Ashby Place units, one building at a time. In addition it has begun a service program to assist those living in Family Housing with problems of employment and financial management.

I look forward to continuing to work with my fellow commissioners to serve the needs of seniors and families in Bedford's public housing.