

Hi, my name is Susan Park, and I am excited to run for Select Board. I am Korean American, and was born and raised in the United States. My parents immigrated to New York from Korea 54 years ago. They worked very hard and built a lovely life for my three sisters and me. Fast forward to the present, I am happily married to Kee Park going on 29 years and have raised three strong and amazing daughters (two of which have already graduated from college and thriving in the work place). My youngest is rocking it at BHS. I also have an adorable dog named Quincy and enjoy taking him to Amory Park, the setting of my children's book *What Happens at the Dog Park*. I have a wide range of experiences in Brookline and

have served and led on many different committees and boards that have impacted our town for the better. I have helped change policy and passed a handful of warrant articles. You are probably wondering why I want to run for Select Board.

These are some of the many reasons:

- I received my Public Leadership Credentials Certificate from the Harvard Kennedy School and am equipped to serve on the Select Board.
- My family and I love Brookline, and I want to give back. My husband and I raised two of our daughters here, and I would love to bring diversity, representation, and fresh perspectives to the Select Board.
- I naturally boost morale and bring people together and enjoy working with people.
- I am a creative problem solver and have experience working with policy and making things better and have passed a handful of warrant articles in Brookline.
- I like to work hard and make a positive difference for our community and have led many teams.
- I've been on a lot of different committees and boards and have experience with the town's finance committee and how the town operates.

This is my fifth year as an elected Town Meeting Member and my second year as the Vice President of the Brookline Town Meeting Member Association. As a former 11th and 12th grade English teacher and head of the English Department, I've worked with many teachers all over the world and have a diverse and global perspective. A diverse perspective is needed on the Select Board, and my presence on the board will help people who felt unseen feel seen.

I have a proven track record to take on challenges by working well with others, rolling up my sleeves, and not being afraid to do the heavy lifting or speaking up when things don't look right. An example is the successful YES on 3 Campaign last year which won overwhelmingly. I take on challenges, take risks, and get results.

Some of my priorities if I am elected to the Select Board:

- 1. Continue the work of the recent passing of the Consensus Warrant Article that commits to more housing in Brookline.
- 2. With more housing, it's important to bring more businesses to expand the commercial tax base. I have a vision to build up parcels of land that will produce commercial revenue.
- 3. I would continue and support the work Brookline has begun to address climate change in which my former Girl Scout Troop participated in and spoke on at Town Meeting so Brookline can proudly do her part in carbon reduction.
- 4. I also am committed to continue to support our beloved seniors so they can age in place, and given the national mental health crisis, I will work hard to address the mental health issues for all ages in Brookline. During the peak of Covid I regularly checked in on the seniors and wrote articles in the Brookline TAB about Brookline senior centers to keep senior centers accounted for during the pandemic.
- 5. It's so important to me to take good care of what we do have. Improving communication from town to the community is a priority of mine so we can access what is and is not working.
- 6. Being prudent with our finances and managing future construction well.

I have been told I am the TRUSTED CHOICE, and that I do have a reputation for being a leader. One of my biggest strengths is that I get along with others, motivate people, and bring people together. Creativity is another strength of mine, and I think outside the box. If elected, I will bring diversity, a wealth of experience, a heart full of service and integrity to the Select board. I hope you will join me in making Brookline a more diverse, healthy, caring, vibrant, and livable community for all. It would be an honor to work together on these endeavors. I hope you can make it to my launch party on Saturday, March 17 at 2-4 pm at Jin's Restaurant on 329 Harvard Street.

Please reach out with any concerns.

In Gratitude,

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