



Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

#48-23

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January 30, 2023

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

To the Honorable City Councilors:

I am pleased to appoint Ruth Goldman of 117 Cypress Street, #2, 02459 as a member of the Urban Tree Commission. Her term of office shall expire on March 6, 2026 and her appointment is subject to your confirmation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Warmly,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

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2023 JAN 30 PM 2:16
CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA, 02459

Application Form

Profile

Ruth E Goldman
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

[Redacted]
Email Address

117 Cypress St. #2
Home Address Suite or Apt

Newton MA 02459
City State Postal Code

What Ward do you live in?

[X] Ward 6

[Redacted]
Primary Phone Alternate Phone

Merck Family Fund Program Officer
Employer Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Urban Tree Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

Have been civically engaged in Newton for years - PTO in Newton Public Schools, 2013 Override, and served on School Committee 2014 - 2022 (Chair 2017 - 2022). My work focuses on urban environments, specifically parks, urban forestry, urban agriculture and the climate and resilience impacts of these natural resources especially for low-income communities.

Bio_CV.docx
Upload a Resume

Ruth Goldman
117 Cypress St. Newton, MA 02459

Biography

Ruth has devoted her 30-year career to the environment, youth leadership development and experiential education, both in the philanthropic and non-profit sectors. Beginning with 15 years in outdoor education, primarily at the Outward Bound Schools in Canada, Ruth worked extensively with young people from diverse backgrounds, including First Nations and court involved teens, as well as adults recovering from trauma. Returning to the U.S. in 1998, she began a career in philanthropy, serving as the Merck Family Fund's Program Officer where she oversaw a \$1.2 million portfolio dedicated to revitalizing urban communities through youth leadership and open space projects. From 2004 - 2011, while her children were young, Ruth was an independent consultant to non-profits, foundations and philanthropic networks, managing projects that addressed critical urban environmental issues including food systems, green infrastructure, sustainable communities, and the role of urban youth in the emerging green economy.

In 2011, Ruth re-joined the Merck Family Fund where she is the Program Officer for the Urban Agriculture and Youth Leadership program and the special initiative on Democracy. She is also a program consultant to the Ajana Foundation. Ruth is steeped in food system, environmental justice and climate issues across New England, New York, Pennsylvania and North Carolina and has a strong working knowledge of the youth development and education sectors.

Ruth has been active as a volunteer in Newton since her children were young, first as PTO at the Bowen School, and then on the 2013 Override, as well as several affordable housing campaigns. Ruth was elected to the Newton School Committee in 2013 and served from 2014 - 2022, as Vice-Chair in 2016 and as Chair from 2017 - 2022..

Qualifications & Attributes:

- ❖ Mature, discrete, strong commitment to building trusting relationships.
- ❖ Straightforward and sincere; able to manage relationships amongst multiple stakeholders with grace and diplomacy.
- ❖ Team player with knack for supporting others to achieve their best efforts.
- ❖ Able to manage multiple projects to successful completion.

**1991
Psychology**

M.Ed. University of Toronto, Community

1983

B.A. Dartmouth College, Comparative Religion