

March 2018

Webster Woods Advisory Panel

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller strongly supports preserving Webster Woods, the largest contiguous parcel of undeveloped, open space in Newton.

The 12-plus acres of woods at the rear of 300 Hammond Pond Parkway, purchased by Boston College from Congregation Mishkan Tefila in May 2016, is directly in the middle of the wooded land owned by the Newton Conservation Commission and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Since the sale, the Friends of Webster Woods and the Newton Conservators have worked together to find ways to preserve the much-loved and visited forest, vernal pond, and rock formations.

Mayor Fuller is pleased to announce the members of the newly formed Webster Woods Advisory Panel, which will review and recommend options to her for the protection of this important natural resource.

- **Lisle Baker:** Ward City Councilor from Ward 7 and a Professor of Law at Suffolk University.
- **Peter Barrer:** Chair of Newton's Design Review Committee. President of the Board of Directors of the Newton Community Farm.
- **Dan Brody:** Director and Website Manager for the Newton Conservators. Wrote the Webster Woods trail descriptions published in the Appalachian Mountain Club's Massachusetts Trail Guide, 10th edition.
- **Kathryn Cade,** representing the Newton Conservation Commission.
- **Suzanne Carleo:** Comptroller of the Charles River Watershed Association.
- **Jeff Goldman:** Abutter and Land Steward for Webster Woods for the City's Conservation Department.
- **Barney Heath:** Director of Planning and Development for the City of Newton.
- **Ken Kimmel:** Co-chair of the Friends of Webster Woods and the President of the Union of Concerned Scientists. Former Commissioner of the MassDEP and the director of a law firm specializing in environmental, energy, and land-use issues.
- **Eric Olson:** Ecologist at Brandeis University. For many years, a leader of walks to the Bare Vernal Pool in Webster Woods.
- **Richard Primack:** Professor of Biology at Boston University and the director of a lab that studies how climate change affects the environment. Writer about and researcher of Webster Woods.
- **Stephen Small:** Nationally known land-protection lawyer. Author of *The Business of Open Space: What's Next?*
- **Jennifer Steel:** Chief Environmental Planner for the City of Newton and, in that role, works with the Conservation Commission.
- **Beth Wilkinson, Chair:** President of the Board of Directors of the Newton Conservators and a member of the Newton Urban Tree Commission.
- **Jonathan Yeo:** Chief Operating Officer of the City of Newton. Formerly, Director of Water Supply Protection for the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.
- **Ouida Young:** City Solicitor for the City of Newton.

The members of the Advisory Panel were chosen for the knowledge and expertise they will bring to the process of protecting the Woods.

"We had so many more excellent people come forward to serve on this panel than seats available. I encourage all of them, and everyone interested in preserving this important parcel of woods to stay involved and work with the Advisory Panel," Mayor Fuller said.