

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Arlington Board of Selectmen is pleased to submit to the residents of Arlington our annual report for 2006. The Arlington Board of Selectmen is composed of five elected individuals who are entrusted with the responsibility to set policy and oversee the management of the municipal functions of local government.

The Board of Selectmen underwent a Selectmen change with the retirement of Kathleen Kiely Dias. Kathleen was a Selectmen for twelve years and highly involved with the Tri-community Working Group. The Board thanks Kathleen for her years of service and commitment to preserving Arlington's traditions and values. At the same time, the Board of Selectmen welcomed Clarissa Rowe. Ms. Rowe brings strength of working knowledge in support of Arlington's open space preservation and expertise in conservation. The transition has been smooth and adds a fresh new approach to the Board.



Board of Selectmen

Standing (l-r) Diane Mahon, John W. Hurd, Clarissa Rowe,
Seated (l-r) Annie LaCourt and Kevin F. Greeley, Chairman.

Financial Overview

Arlington under the leadership of this Board, the School Committee, the Finance Committee and other Town leaders overcame the financial hurdles of the last couple of years through a disciplined program that included reductions in Town and School services, use of the Town's financial reserves to augment revenues, and reductions in operating costs achieved through flexible collective bargaining and increased benefit cost sharing by Town and School employees at all levels. The Town is in the second year of the 5-year strategic plan and with balancing of budgets and level budget planning, the Town is within the plan.

Chairman Kevin F. Greeley initiated preparations

for a Town-wide Summit Meeting, bringing to the table Arlington's financial leaders from the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, School Committee, Town Manager's Office, Town Department heads, and Assessor's Board. This group will meet quarterly to review options to keep the Town financially healthy.

Selectmen Goals

The Board of Selectmen met several times over the year to develop goals aligned with the financial plan and other Town objectives. Those goals are:

- Bicentennial participation and promotion of events.
- Long range financial /strategic planning process culminating in 5 year plan for FY 2011 and beyond.
- Develop strategy for addressing capital development and maintenance needs.
- Develop a long range planning, land use, and zoning policy, which addresses Business Development and Tourism.
- Transportation Issues – develop overall policy for the Town and solicit funding sources if necessary.
- Communications – develop programs and policies.

200th Anniversary Celebration

The Board of Selectmen enthusiastically supports and celebrates Arlington's 200th Anniversary. The Board approved changing the bottom header on all its official correspondence proclaiming the anniversary celebration. The Selectmen's Office is selling 200th Anniversary merchandise such as T-shirts, caps, mugs and bumper stickers. Many events are planned during the eighteen-month celebration and the Board thanks the 200th Anniversary Celebration Committee for all their effort in the events planned.

Town Day Celebration

This year Arlington Town Day was exceptionally successful due to the incredible weather. Resident and vendor participation was higher than ever making it a fun packed day offering crafts, entertainment, food and children's activities. The Committee's focus on creating a mix of family activities and local crafts resulted in an overwhelming amount of thanks and praise from Town Day goers. The Board of Selectmen congratulates and thanks the Town Day Committee and in particular the Co-Chairs Kathleen Darcy and Marie A. Krepelka. The Board also thanks the many businesses and residents who contributed to make this day a success.

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Committee Acknowledgement: Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

The Board of Selectmen would like to acknowledge the exceptional work done by the TAC members. TAC was authorized in April of 2001 with eight citizen members and three Town Department members. The charge of TAC is to serve as an advisory committee to the Board of Selectmen. Their voluntary research and work is a tremendous asset to the Selectmen in determining direction on matters of transportation and parking through out the Town.

Dedicated Team

Arlington extends many thanks to Marie Krepelka, an integral part of the Selectmen's administrative office, for her perseverance in her ability to work under the challenges of her illness. I would also like to thank Jean Devereaux, Fran Reidy and Mary Ann Sullivan. They are exceptional employees dedicated to providing the best possible service to every person interacting with the Selectmen's Office.

