



Somerville Dog Owners Group
Questionnaire for Candidates
2007 Municipal Elections

Name: Tom Taylor

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Office for which you are seeking election: Ward Three Alderman

1. Tell us about your experiences as a Somerville resident at our municipal parks. What parks do you visit, how often, what do you do there when you visit?

At this point, Nunziato Field is the park I most often visit. When my daughter was younger I frequently visited Central Hill, Walnut Street and Prospect Hill Parks.

2. Somerville has just over two (2) acres of open space for every thousand residents. We are the most densely populated city in the Commonwealth. Compare that to Cambridge, the second most densely populated city in Massachusetts, where there are over eight (8) acres of open space for every thousand residents. What will you do in the upcoming term to increase the area of open space per capita in Somerville.

Whenever we can create open space we should do it without question. I was an advocate for creating the Growing Center and Nunziato Field.

3. Despite recent improvements, nonetheless families with dogs remain underserved by Somerville's open spaces, particularly in East Somerville, in West Somerville and in the Davis Square, Magoun Square and Winter Hill neighborhoods. What opportunities will you create to improve access for families with dogs to open space?

I have been an advocate for more dog parks for a number of years. I feel we need at least two more off-leash areas for dogs. I have and will continue to work with som|dog on this issue.

4. The Somerville Dog Owners Group has been delighted to see improvements in recent years in the City's Animal Control Department and in the enforcement of municipal ordinances pertaining to animals, including the leash law and the "pooper-scooper" law. What initiatives would you undertake to further improve Animal Control in Somerville?

I have continually sponsored resolves at budget hearings to add another Animal Control Officer. We are greatly understaffed.

5. Do you own a dog/dogs? Yes

6. If you are a dog owner please tell us about your dog(s); if not, please share some of your experiences with dogs in the community.

a black lab retriever
a black border collie

Return to:
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