Monday, March 25, 2024

A letter from Scott McDermott to *Medfield Insider* readers…

Hello to *Medfield Insider,* and to my friends and neighbors. Today is election day in Medfield, and for me it will signal the end of 25 years as an elected official, the last 21 years as our Town Moderator.

What a privilege and joy to engage with so many great people. I admire so many of you for amazing contributions to the vitality, caring, strength, and forward progress of our community. And, personally, a sincere thank you for your interest and support over the last quarter of a century (yikes)!

Everyone knows my enthusiasm for Town Meeting. WE are the fortunate ones in this world. WE get to experience the exercise of open, democratic, and participatory self-government. Imagine, the legislative branch is US – you and me. WE, gathering together face-to-face, discuss and debate and determine important local issues. It is not perfect, but still pretty cool.

Amplifying my enthusiasm, an even greater passion is Community. And community has two definitions:

1. A group of people living in the same place; or
2. The fellowship and goodwill which flows from sharing common purpose, interests, friendships, and s sensation of moving forward together.

The first definition defines <u>where we are</u>; the second definition defines <u>who we are</u>. WE are much more than a group of people living in the same place. Rather, we are a community of caring, commitment, and common purpose. Our distinctive 'brand' in Medfield is Community. For me, the spirit of goodwill and fellowship has made Medfield a wonderful place to live, raise a family, have fun with friends, connect with the outdoors, and happily participate in our community life.

Thanks again. And I look forward to seeing what WE can continue to do together in this special place we call our home. Enjoy spring. Thanks again.

Scott McDermott, Town Moderator (for today)