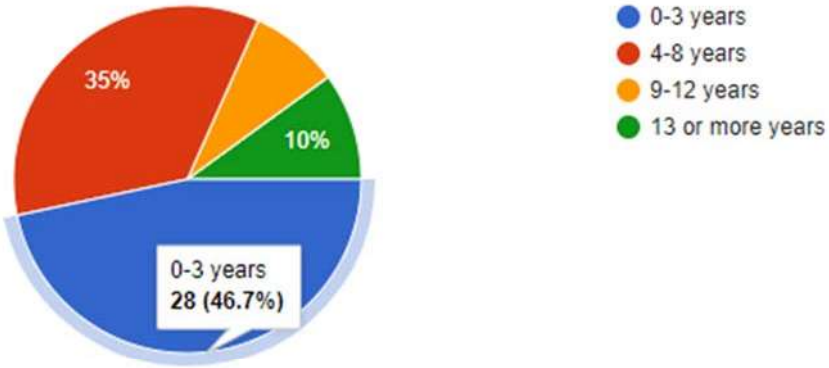
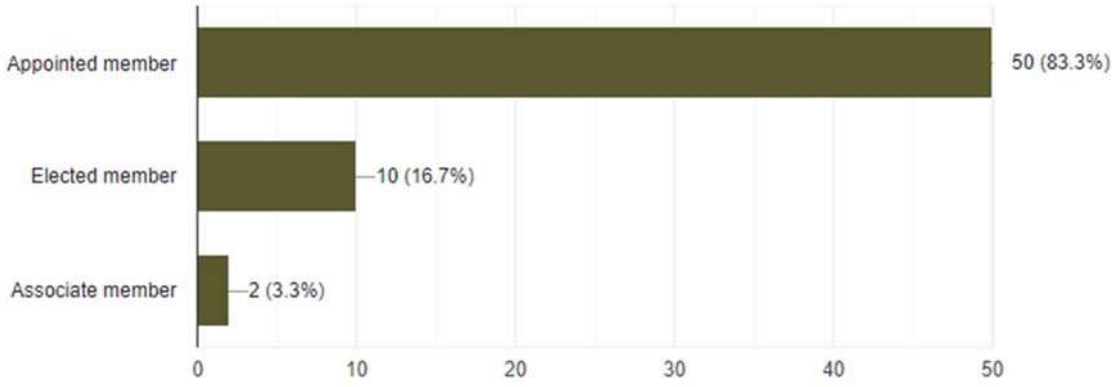
How long have you served on your current board, committee or commission (rounding up to the nearest year)?

60 responses



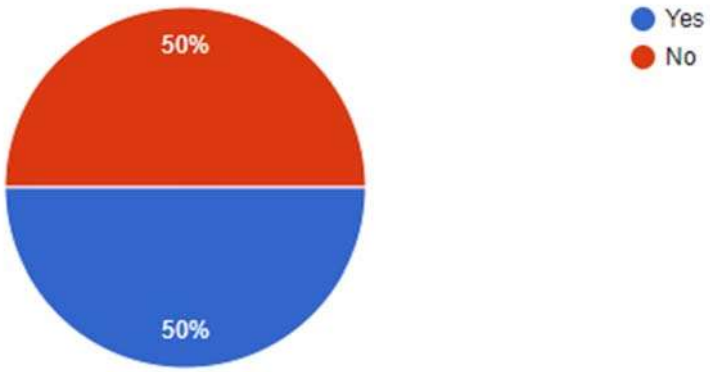
Is your current position (check all that apply)

60 responses



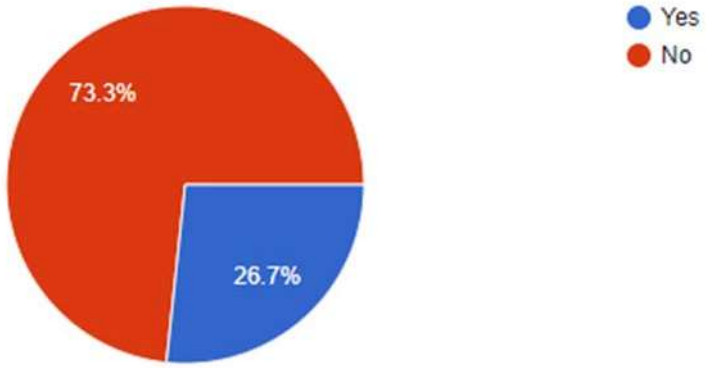
Have you served on a prior town boards, committees or commissions?

60 responses



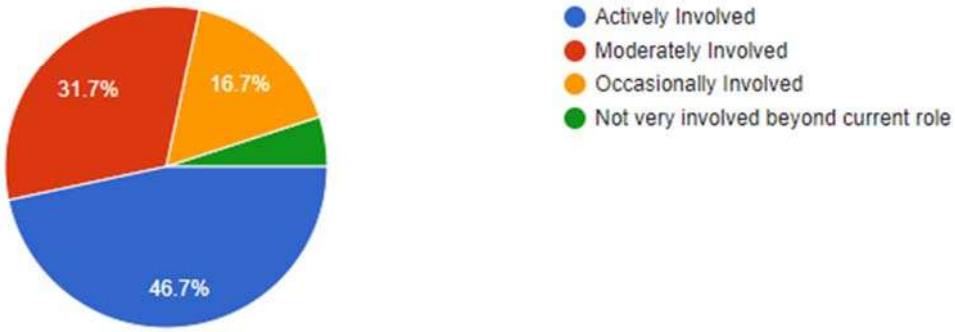
Do you currently serve on more than one town board, committee or commission?

60 responses



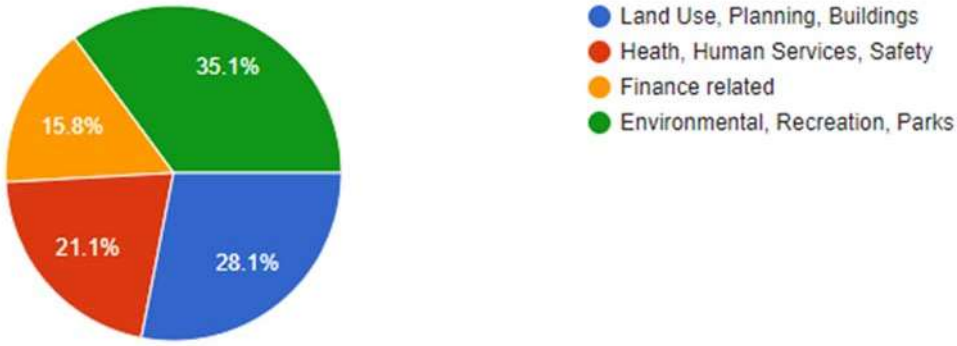
How would you best describe your level of past and present degree of volunteerism in other areas - beyond your current role - i.e. federal, state, private or other non-profit organizations?

60 responses



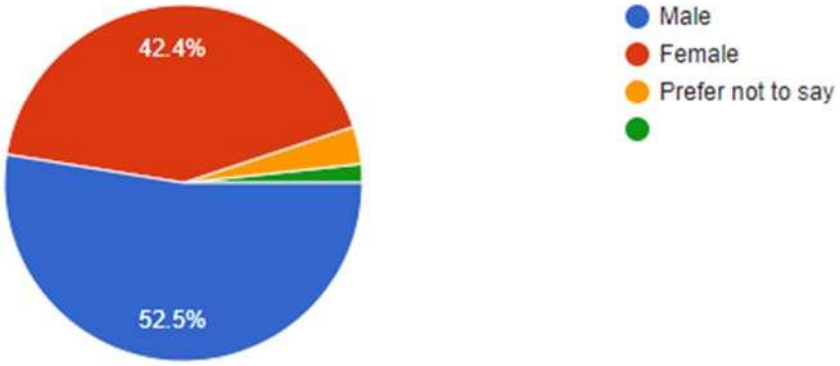
Which best describes the sector of your current board, committee or commission?

57 responses



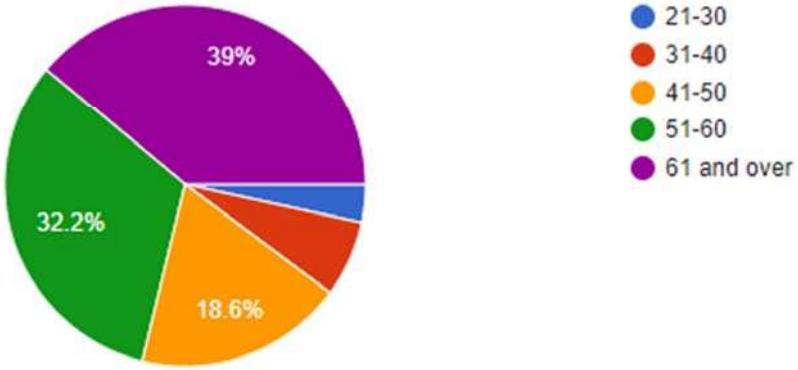
How would you describe your gender?

59 responses



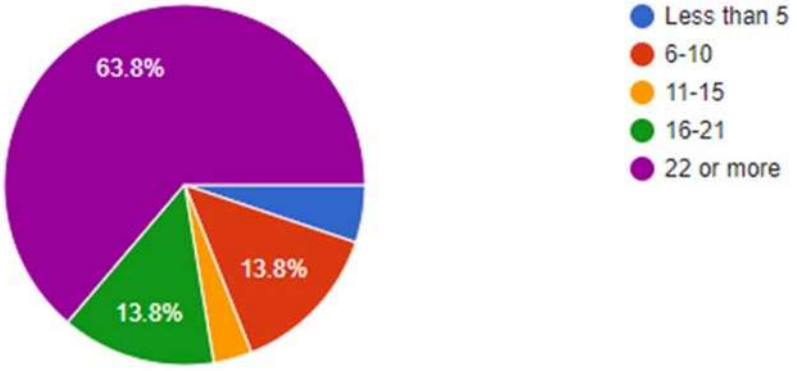
Your age?

59 responses



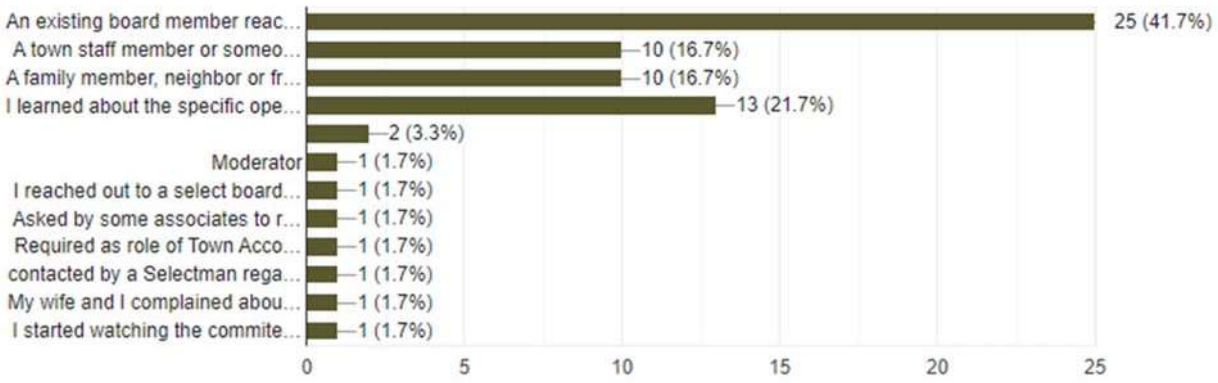
Number of years living in Medfield

58 responses



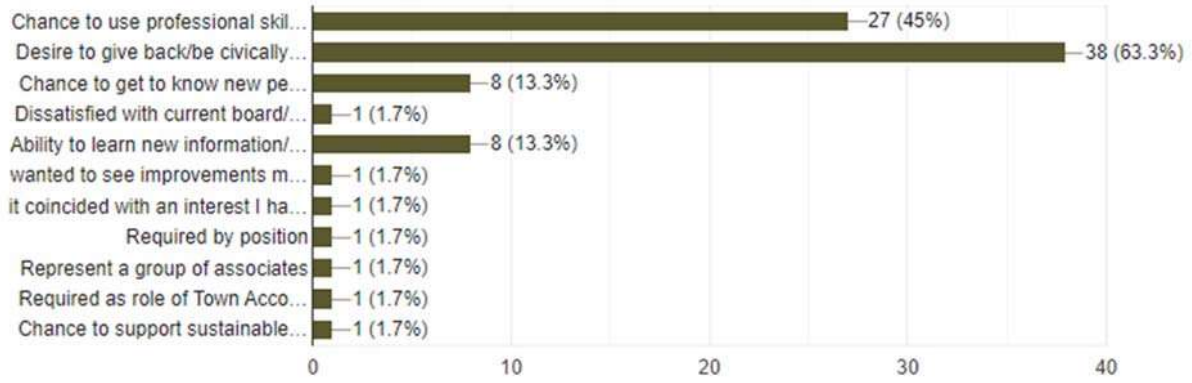
Whether appointed or elected, what best describes how you were first recruited to join a board, committee or commission in Medfield?

60 responses



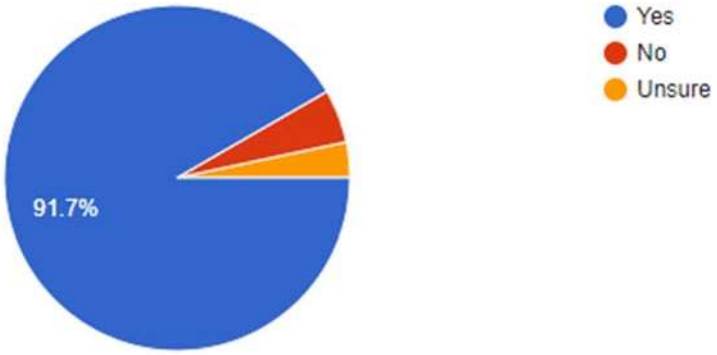
What is the top reason you chose to join your existing board, committee or commission?

60 responses



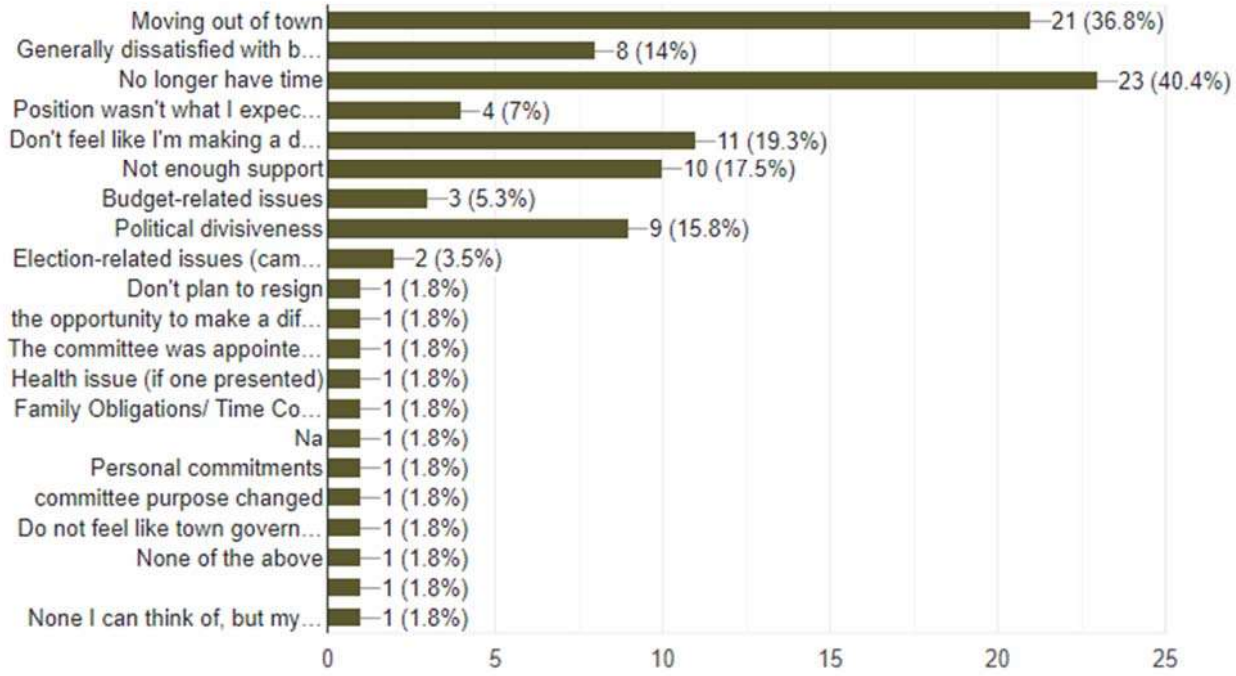
Do you plan to continue in your current board, committee or commission position for another year?

60 responses



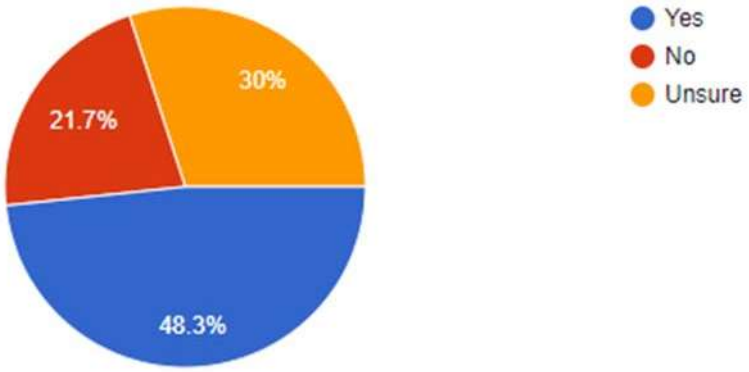
What top factor(s) might influence you to resign or not run for re-election?

57 responses



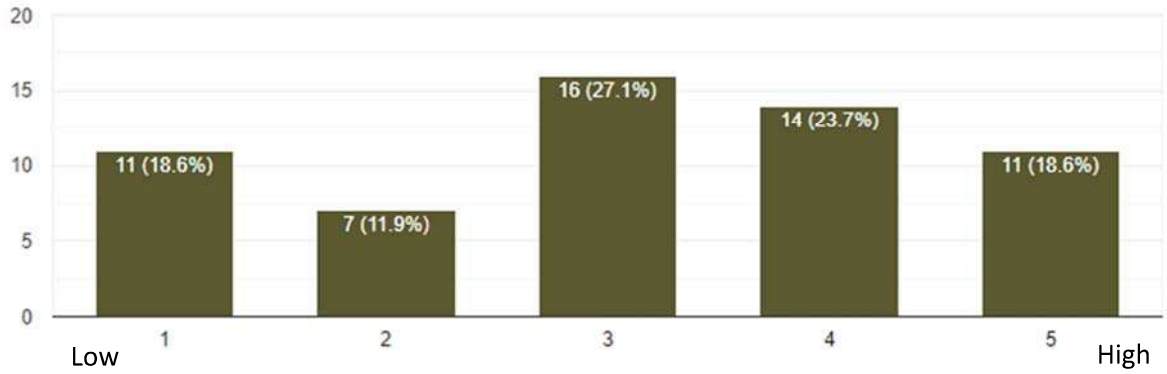
In your opinion, would recognition of town volunteers help with retention?

60 responses



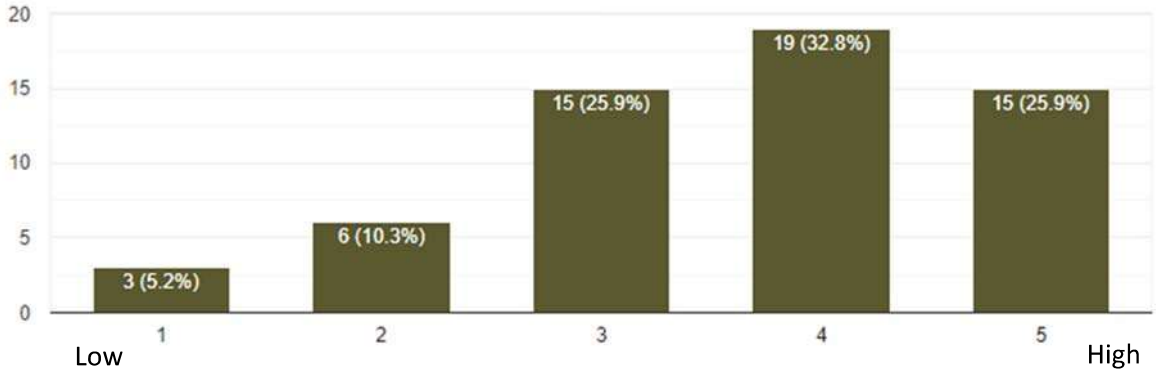
How would you rate the orientation you received when you first joined?

59 responses



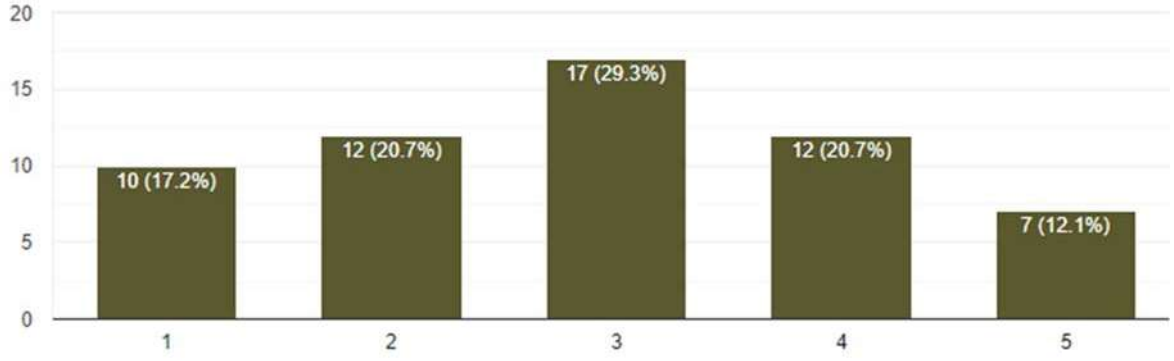
How would you rate the level of support you receive during your volunteer service?

58 responses



To what degree would more training and/or more support increase your level of volunteer satisfaction?

58 responses



How might Medfield recruit more volunteers to boards, committees or commissions?

Recognition would help!

New in Town? Ask existing board members again and again again for referrals.
Include categories or specific town boards in New n Town and real estate packets for new residents (home owners and renters), with short descriptions and testimonials from current
Have an on-line form seeking volunteers, and publicize it.
Highlight one or maybe 2 boards, committees or commissions once a month, maybe in the TA monthly update and then include an insert in the annual town warrant of a summary of
Recognize people more publicly for their efforts: higher profile recognition on town web page, invitation to participate in the Memorial Day parade, photos/picture of volunteers at
For my demographic, I think increased positive use of social media (pr/branding/communication/etc) would help residents (45 and under) be more aware of the good that's
As a town, do a better job of supporting our committees and boards collectively and not allow residents to harass or bully members or officials. Support a more 'no tolerance' approach for bad behaviors. We're all in this together and should have a united front. We should do more to counter misinformation and encourage our community to participate in productive ways. I.e. work with us, run for offices, attend meetings, meet with members of committees and share your thoughts and ideas ---- as opposed to just venting on online
Boy, if you come up with a good answer to this question you could sell it to staff in neighboring towns.
Constructively, I do think that highlighting the significant efforts that some are expending (social meeting, handing out volunteer awards by the town, etc) then you will make people feel as though they are making a difference while also alerting others to the work being done. A volunteer appreciation day or evening could be a great event, say at the sake and 7th Wave locations.
Second suggestion: term limits, and limit multi-committee service. It is a problem, for many reasons, if people just assume that a small few will do the work. I would impose term
Members reaching out to others with required skills.

make sure that the towns people know about openings on/and committees. With out the town paper it is hard to get the word out.
More publicity / public education about each board and what they do, how much of a time commitment is involved, what skills would be helpful. Also, personal outreach by current

I believe there are natural progressions from other non-Town volunteer organizations/causes (youth sports, arts/music organizations, etc...) to Town committees/commissions. I think it would be great to have chairs from various committees (or maybe combine having 2 or 3 members together) coordinate/reach out to be on the agenda for the meetings held by these other non-Town volunteer organizations and to spend 10 to 15 minutes sharing what the committee does and cultivate relationships/build awareness to encourage future volunteering opportunities. I know as my kids grew up and I no longer coached/volunteered, I was looking for other opportunities to give back. In addition, when I was President of

Oh if only I had an answer...Why would anyone want to volunteer when there is such a vocal couple vigorously trashing any voice that is in opposition of their views? How many people really want to sign up for that?...good luck, I wish you success, and sorry I don't have an answer here.
Increase public awareness of importance and civic responsibility of grassroots involvement
publicize general awareness of what committees do and how citizens might help
I received zero orientation., zero information and no idea wat I was supposed to do or not to do.
Fully acknowledging I responded to a newspaper listing of an opening as my recruiting path, I have found that the best and most powerful recruiting tool for boards and committees are the EXISTING board and committee members convincing friends, neighbors or professional colleagues to consider joining. We all know other people in town that have

Let people know that we need their help and it really makes a difference.
Current members of boards and committees reaching out to others in town in combination with publicity at Town Meeting and in local publications like the Medfield Insider.
Decrease political divisiveness
I think just promoting awareness through visible channels. Put it right on the front page of the website and post all available opportunities.

I have wondered about this. I do think that not enough is done to publicize the openings that are available. Also, it is not clear to me whether particular expertise is required for the various boards. For example, does one need to be hydrologist or comparable specialist to serve on the Water and Sewer Board?
news articles and recruiting at Town Meeting

continued education on roles and importance of civic volunteers to town government

Supoort in these positions.
Requests from peers and/or elected officials to people who may be able to help because of their particular expertise or interests, support and respect from town officials and

Get state to tailor Open Meeting Law to be more targeted for actual boards

Honestly, I think that people are just busy.
If the pitchfork-wielding villagers, Monday morning quarterbacks, facebook addicts, rumor mongers, and NIMBYs all moved out of town. ;-)
Publicize in newspapers and social media.

Clear and detailed role/responsibility descriptions; benefits to self and town
Perhaps advertise the need for volunteers in the schools and other town buildings and facilities as well as in social media or other media to reach the most people. I have never seen any advertising for the need of volunteers and have only been a volunteer when someone has personally reached out to me.
Through advertising

possible more public discussion/awareness through social media platforms?
Tabling at Discover Medfield Day
Generally think personal outreach is best, even a very busy person is likely to seriously consider when asked directly and benefit to the Town is made clear

Possibly announcing that certain boards, committees or commissions are looking for more volunteers. Some of the boards, committees and commissions may be less well known and
No useful idea
Perhaps work with New 'n Towne to speak regularly to new residents?