

Candidate Statements

Yan Bennett, Candidate for Borough at large

My name is Yan Bennett and my husband and I are Borough residents. I'm interested in serving in PCDO because of my commitment to our community. I was formerly a Foreign Service Officer with the US State Department and strongly believe in public service. I serve on two municipal committees, the Borough Traffic and Transportation Committee and the Joint Bicycle and Sidewalk Advisory Committee. I also know many of you through volunteer activities with the Obama Campaign. In my committee work, we seek to improve our community for the betterment of its residents. By taking a leadership role with the PCDO, I can assist its members by furthering their causes to the municipalities through my committee work. It is also very important to me that our community continues to have a vibrant political voice by having strong PCDO leadership. I would be honored to receive your vote of approval.

Adam Bierman, Candidate for Township at large

I wish to continue to help the PCDO. Through helping to organize events, recruiting new members and campaigning for all Democratic candidates. Democracy is "us" and I want to be part of the process.

thanx and vote for me

Walter Bliss, Candidate for township at large

I seek a position on the PCDO Executive Committee because it is a way to serve the Princeton Community. My priorities for service on the Committee would include: (1) advocating for our youth and for creating an environment in which all of our youth feel they belong and are accepted as first-class citizens; (2) helping to improve awareness of educational issues as they affect the Princeton Community; and (3) creating opportunities for grassroots outreach to Trenton and the region on issues of shared interest. I currently am serving my third term on the Princeton Regional Board of Education. Mary and I and our family have lived in Princeton for 34 years. I am a one-year incumbent on the Executive Committee and have appreciated the opportunity to serve.

David Cohen, Candidate for President

I am running for President of the PCDO with the goal of consolidating the gains in membership made in recent years under Jenny Crumiller's leadership, and furthering the progress we have made in promoting an open and inclusive atmosphere in the PCDO and the broader Princeton Democratic Party. A 22 year resident of Princeton, I first became involved in the PCDO during the 2004 Presidential campaign and have been a member of the PCDO Exec Board for the past three years including 1½ years as Treasurer and 1 year as President. As an architect, I have a particular interest in government's role in promoting livable and sustainable communities.

Beth Healey, Candidate for Township at large

Beth Healey has lived in Princeton on Moore St. since 1976. She has been a committeeperson in the 4th district since 1980. She has been involved in a number of activities related to campaign work at the local, county and congressional and state level. Beth hopes to help maintain the Democratic majority in Princeton in any way possible. She is interested in various human rights issues, youth and education and, of course, property taxes.

Ginger Lennon, Candidate for Treasurer

I want to make a difference, and given the particular set of skills I possess, serving as treasurer seems to be the best office to which I could aspire. I have a degree in mathematics, an obsessive concern for detail and excellent record keeping skills. Of course it's self-serving to say that continuity in the treasurer's job is important, but I do believe it's a good thing. I can add that I've never bounced a check in my life and that I served as treasurer of a (state) senate campaign. Thank you.

Peter Lindenfeld, Candidate for Recording Secretary

"Being recording secretary is a contribution that I enjoy and that I think I do well. I look forward to the opportunity to continue."

Mary Ellen Marino, Candidate for Borough Vice President

I am sure that most of you are more than aware of the effort I make to support issues of concern nationally, on the state level and locally. I have been part of groups bringing many valuable programs to the PCDO and getting valuable resolutions of support from the group to help push those issues forward.

I would like to propose myself for Vice President for the Borough as I did last year to help me bring critical issues before the membership. I thank the PCDO for always being there what is needed on so many levels.

Anne Neumann, Candidate for Borough at large

I'd like to serve as a Borough-at-Large member of the PCDO Executive Board not only to help elect Democrats. I also want to assist the PCDO's increasing involvement in broader local issues.

For example, I'm a member of a PCDO ad-hoc committee that has been studying the effect of Princeton University's tax-exempt status on Borough and Township property taxes. And I currently serve on the Site Plan Review Advisory Board, which advises the Planning Board on technical issues raised by development applications. Could the PCDO identify and endorse sustainable development that truly benefits Princeton residents?

What about Princeton's economic development specifically? By what means could a political organization like the PCDO support local merchants, job training programs, and business incubators? If I'm elected as a Borough-at-Large member, I will urge the PCDO Executive Board to explore issues like these.

Joan Widner, Candidate for Borough at large

If there was ever a time to come to the aid of the party, this surely is it. I want to be part of a civil conversation with my neighbors about how our community can come together to solve some of the pressing issues we are going to face in the new decade.

So many of our neighbors don't vote, either because they feel disenfranchised or they want to be disengaged because of the virulence of the opposition today. It's time to bring everyone together to talk about what is the best way forward for our community in a period of change and economic uncertainty. If we, as Democrats, go out to our neighbors and talk about the issues, I'm convinced we can combat some of the negativity and ugliness that is so prevalent in politics today.