

July 25, 2022

Dear Emerald Green community,

I am writing to ask for your vote for the Board of Directors. My name is Chris Loomis, and I am running because I want to help restore trust and transparency between the board and this community.

My wife Amanda and I have grown to love Emerald Green since we purchased our home on Picadilly Circle last year. We both work at a school in Tarrytown during the week – I am a history teacher and department chair, and Amanda is a psychologist – and we feel extraordinarily lucky to have bought our first house in such a wonderful place. When we are not hard at work on our house and yard, you can find us kayaking and paddleboarding on the lake, enjoying the new pool, and hiking in Neversink. While we are year-round weekenders, we very much consider this our home and our community.

Among the many reasons we moved here, association politics was not one of them. A spirited but friendly conversation with Chet over a special permit is about the limit of my appetite. But the current board's overspending – and more importantly, its failure to gain the community's consent for these expenditures – has left me unsettled and deeply disappointed. The board spent our money without asking our permission, and in doing so it breached our trust. I believe the best way to hold the board accountable is to give homeowners the option to choose new leadership.

In seeking this position, I'm conscious of the limits of my experience. I've only lived in Emerald Green for one year, and I still have a lot to learn about this place. I teach history; I do not have the kind of financial, legal, or business expertise of a typical candidate. What I can promise is that I will be engaged, ask lots of questions, form independent judgments, and be open and honest with my neighbors. My experience in the classroom and working with colleagues has taught me the value of collaboration, consensus-building, and pragmatic solutions.

To that end, I believe it is critical that we approve the forthcoming assessment to cover the Entertainmentium overruns. Being forced to clean up the board's mess may be a bitter pill, but voting down the assessment will only result in more distress and an even bigger bill down the road. Going forward, I think the two most important things the board can do to restore trust with the community are to prove that it can live within its budget, and to err on the side of over-communication. As a teacher who is used to giving the same instructions seven different times in seven different ways, this part of the job at least should come naturally to me.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to connecting with you.

Sincerely,
Chris Loomis

CHRISTOPHER M. LOOMIS
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EDUCATION

University of Virginia, M.A., History, 2006

Harvard University, B.A., History, *magna cum laude*, 2004

EXPERIENCE

Hackley School, Tarrytown, N.Y., 2015-present

History Department Chair, 2021-present

- Led team of 11 faculty across grades 5-12 in professional growth and curriculum development.
- Spearheaded co-curricular programming around civil discourse and informed citizenship.

Class Dean, 2016-2021

- Managed student life – including academic advising and student conduct – for 90+ upper school students.
- Coordinated and collaborated with faculty advisors, administrators, and support services.

Upper School History Teacher, 2015-present

- Taught 20th Century World History, U.S. History to 1900, and History of Media and Culture.
- Redesigned Media to focus on media literacy and democracy through hands-on projects such as news reporting and podcasting.

Stratford Academy, Macon, Ga., 2012-2015

Upper School History and Journalism Teacher

- Taught AP U.S. History and U.S. History. Developed project-based learning focused on civil rights and social justice, and partnered with the local historical society to present student research.
- Launched the student newspaper's first website. Redesigned curriculum to foster student-driven digital journalism and promote community engagement.

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va., 2005-2012

Instructor and Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Designed and led an undergraduate thesis seminar on media history that incorporated archival research in UVA's special collections.
- Led discussion sections for undergraduate history courses, including History of the Civil Rights Movement, The 20th Century South, U.S. Society and Politics, 1900-1945, and Modern China.
- Taught analytical writing in Technology and the Future, a first-year course for engineering undergraduates.

PUBLICATIONS & TALKS

Panelist, Community Conversation on Democracy, *Hudson Independent* and Warner Library, Tarrytown, N.Y., April 17, 2019

"A Civic Network: The Public Broadcasting Act of 1967," International Communication Association Conference, London, U.K., June 17-21, 2013

"The Politics of Uncertainty: Lobbyists and Propaganda in Early Twentieth-Century America," *Journal of Policy History* 21, no. 2 (April 2009): 187-213

Researcher-Writer, *Let's Go Travel Guide, 2005: USA (With Coverage of Canada)*, St. Martin's Press, 2005

AWARDS & GRANTS

Oscar Kimmelman Award, 2022

Anton and Lydia Rice Inspirational Teaching Award, 2018

Moody Grant, Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, 2010

Research Grant, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, 2007

President's Fellowship, University of Virginia, 2004-2008

Thomas T. Hoopes Prize, Harvard University, 2004

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Craftsbury Virtual Running Camp, Craftsbury Outdoor Center, 2020

The Global Cold War, Gilder Lehrman Summer Seminar, USS Midway Museum, San Diego, Calif., 2019

Honor Board Conference, Center for Spiritual and Ethical Education, Pingry School, Basking Ridge, N.J., 2019

Deans' Roundtable Conference, Noble and Greenough School, Dedham, Mass., 2016 and 2018

AP Summer Institute, U.S. History, Fairfax, Va., 2012

COACHING & SERVICE

Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, Hackley School, 2019-2021

Varsity Assistant Coach for Boys Cross Country, Hackley School, 2019-present

- NYSAIS and Ivy League Champions (2019)

Varsity Assistant Coach for Boys Cross Country, Stratford Academy, 2014

- GHSA state championship meet qualifier