

My name is Tessa Anderson and I'm running for a three year Fletcher Select Board position. Being an active part of my community is important to me, and as a member of the Select Board I feel I can make a positive impact on the future of our town.

I've lived in Fletcher for five years. I grew up in Southern Vermont, where my dad was on the local Select Board and acted as road commissioner. I have no illusions about the level of time and commitment required to keep a town functioning well - I witnessed my dad putting in countless hours as a kid. I graduated from UVM as a Green and Gold scholar with a degree in Music Performance. I have my own business teaching flute lessons at the Burlington Music Dojo, where I've gained experience in finances, communication, and all of the other skills needed to run a successful business. I've also gathered budgeting and finance experience through my time as the treasurer of both the non-profit summer camp Girls Rock Vermont and my local union shop.

I care deeply about our Vermont landscape. My husband and I raise ducks on our small homestead and I grow shiitake mushrooms. Part of what I love about Fletcher is the fact that so many people have a working relationship with the land, from hunting to beekeeping and vegetable farming.

I feel strongly about the need for racial and social equity in every town in this country, and I have been very active in the Movement for Black Lives. I am committed to respectful dialogue around this topic and I'm open to any questions you might have for me about my personal beliefs and anti-racism work. As a woman, queer-identifying person, mother, and teacher, I hope my presence on the board will offer some representation for folks who might otherwise be missing it. I hope you'll consider voting for me, and I'm looking forward to serving our town.