



Amherst Massachusetts

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For Immediate Release
Contact: Paul Bockelman, Town Manager

Barbara Bilz Named as New LSSE Director

Town Manager Paul Bockelman announced that he has appointed Amherst resident Barbara Bilz to the position of Director of the Leisure Services and Supplemental Education Department (LSSE). Bilz has served as Interim Director since April following the retirement of long-time director Linda Chalfant.

“Barb has done an outstanding job coalescing and leading the LSSE staff team,” said Bockelman. “She’s earned the right to the promotion and is the right person at the right time.” Bockelman announced the appointment at the Select Board meeting on October 30th.

The move was supported unanimously by the LSSE Commission. “It has been a pleasure to work with Barb on a variety of issues relating to LSSE and other Town recreation programs while she's served as Interim Director. She has brought new energy and responsiveness to the department. As a committee, we feel more connected to the department and have been impressed with her efforts in leading LSSE towards the future,” said Meg Rosa, chair of the LSSE Commission.

Bilz commented, “I’m grateful for the opportunity to be able to serve Amherst as its new Director of Leisure Services and Supplemental Education. I’m very fortunate to have an amazing team of staff and volunteers at LSSE and we are all committed to providing the highest quality recreational programming and facilities for our community.”

Barbara Bilz has worked for the Town since 2000, first in the capacity of Director of Development and Community Programs and has served as LSSE Assistant Director since 2008. In this capacity she has managed the aquatics programs, the Cherry Hill Golf Course, Winterfest and many other special events. She holds a Bachelors of Arts degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a Master’s degree in Recreation and Parks Administration from Indiana University. Biz’s appointment is effective November 1, 2017.