

Dear Ms. Pomeroy,

My name is Nick Altschuller. I'm a writer and editor (and dad and ultrarunner) living in Winter Hill. I see there are openings for the Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities, and I would like to express my interest.

Our son Gus has a rare genetic disorder with the catchy name of HNRNPU-Related disorder. It's so rare that the National Organization for Rare Diseases, based in Quincy, does not have the disorder in their database. (But I've been speaking with people over there, so I hope to have that remedied.)

As Gus has gone through Early Intervention and attended local daycare and public school, I've seen how hard the teachers and therapists work with him. I've also seen the limitations in their resources and abilities. With supplemental work with the Neurological and Physical Abilitation Center in Waltham, and the Boston Ability Center in Natick, Gus has made real progress, and with communication between parties, we've formed a better network of quality care.

Clear, concise communication, in the written word or otherwise, is a skill I can bring to the SCPD. I've been a professional writer and editor for almost 20 years, and I've managed large teams tackling projects in which communication was key to success. I hope I can use my talents in service of the commission.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and I hope to hear from you,

Nick Altschuller