Email 4/23/2022

Hello Cathy,

I hope this email finds you well and healthy. My name is <u>Lamia Mamoon</u>, and I've been a Somerville resident for the last few years (was a Cambridge resident prior). I realize I am a week or so past the deadline, but I am hoping to still indicate great interest and enthusiasm for the Somerville Library Board of Trustees position through this email. I apologize for the delay - the original email notifying me of the opening went to my spam and I only just happened to see it.

I have a deep passion for libraries and reading. My parents were graduate students when I was very young, and I spent the majority of my early years exploring various campus and public libraries while they studied, and since then have had a lifelong love of reading, learning and the community aspect that libraries have to offer. I spent much of my middle school/high school years volunteering at my local public library in the California Bay Area where I grew up. My love of reading and libraries remained throughout adulthood, as I have consistently led book club groups themed around anti-racism, current events, and other thought provoking contemporary topics.

Since becoming a Somerville resident in 2020, I've actively been seeking ways to become more deeply involved in my community. While I have been actively involved in fundraising for MAMAS (Mutual Aid Medford and Somerville) as well as in setting up various Somerville community fridges, I'm eager to be part of a group which meets regularly to shape the future of an essential community institution such as our public libraries. I've loved visiting the various Somerville public library branches and am deeply impressed with the level of community events, educational series, and social programming offered. I am eager to join the Library Board of Trustees to be able to more deeply contribute my managerial and planning skills to this group (I hold an MBA from MIT Sloan and have held numerous management positions in the life sciences and education industries). Most importantly, my motivations are to ensure that the future of our public libraries reflect the needs of our diverse community members.

Somerville is such a special place to live. Every day I feel so lucky to live in a city that values progress, learning and community orientation. I believe I can make a tremendous impact on our community as a Trustee, and thank you in advance for your consideration. If helpful, I am happy to speak on the phone to discuss my enthusiasm further.

Thank you and take care, Lamia