



Billy Walsh <bwalsh@natickma.org>

Welcoming Community Policy

1 message

Deb M <debinnatick@gmail.com>
To: Selectboard@natickma.org

Fri, Nov 15, 2024 at 8:11 PM

Dear Select Board Members,
I am writing in support of the draft Welcoming Community Policy.
This issue reminds me of the poem "First They Came," by Rev. Martin Niemöller, a pastor in Germany during WWII:
First they came for the Communists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Communist.
Then they came for the Socialists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Socialist.
Then they came for the trade unionists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a trade unionist.
Then they came for the Jews
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Jew
Then they came for me
And there was no one left
To speak out for me.

(He was speaking from experience, as a survivor of the camps.)

As you may know, this policy is critical for ensuring that our town employees are not conscripted into enforcing federal immigration law at a time when our resources are already limited. The policy also assures immigrant communities that they can utilize town resources, including reporting crimes to law enforcement, without fear of immigration repercussions.

Any upcoming program of mass deportation will depend on local law enforcement for support, so we must have policies in place now that reflect Natick's inclusive values. I strongly urge you to vote in favor of the draft policy.

Sincerely,
Deborah Marion
4 Townsend Circle