

**MICHAEL J. O'LOUGHLIN**

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October 18, 2023

To the Honorable Town Council:

I am writing to express interest in the vacant auxiliary seat on the Bristol Historic District Commission.

When my husband and I decided to relocate from Chicago to New England earlier this year, we immediately fell in love with the charm, natural beauty, and proud historic preservation that is so clearly on display in Bristol.

We were fortunate to be given the opportunity to purchase an historic home, the Royal Sandford Cottage (c. 1790), situated on a block adjacent to the historic district, at 114 Constitution Street. I have taken a keen interest in the history of the house and of Bristol more broadly. With daily walks through the historic district, I have come to appreciate the care with which the town seeks to preserve the past in order to secure its future.

In my professional life, which includes reporting and writing, I have spent countless hours in archives, reviewing primary sources, and asking questions of my sources, seeking out sometimes obscure information in order to ensure total accuracy. I pay attention to details, double- and triple-checking each fact, in order to get the story right. I believe these skills would serve the Bristol Historic District Commission well.

While I am relatively new to Bristol, I hope I can contribute to this vibrant community and that my background and skill set will be useful to the Commission.

Sincerely,



Michael J. O'Loughlin  
114 Constitution Street

2023 OCT 19 AM 9:15  
TOWN OF BRISTOL  
DISTRICT COMMISSION

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*Nationally recognized multimedia journalist and author with a background in strategic nonprofit communications. Published in national outlets including The New York Times, The Washington Post and The Atlantic. Work has been honored by the National LGBT Journalists Association, the Religion News Association, and the Catholic Press Association.*

### **EDUCATION**

Yale University, M.A.R., 2009

Saint Anselm College, B.A., *magna cum laude*, Theology, 2007

### **EMPLOYMENT**

America Magazine, National Correspondent, 2016-Present

- Files weekly stories focused on U.S. politics and religion for a national audience
- Delivers speeches and talks at venues throughout the United States
- Hosts live audio and video productions interviewing newsmakers

The Boston Globe, Crux, National Reporter, 2014-2016

- Filed multiple stories weekly about U.S. religion and politics
- Edited stories and updated website using content management system
- Contributed to social media strategy and posting

FADICA, Communications Consultant, 2012-2014

- Led media campaign during philanthropy consortium's presidential transition
- Drafted press releases and prepared leaders for media appearances
- Prepared talking points for presentations by senior-level staff

Leadership Roundtable, Communications Manager, 2011-2014

Leadership Roundtable, Communications and Development Officer, 2009-2011

- Placed dozens of stories about the organization, including in The New York Times
- Wrote speeches and op-eds and provided media preparation for senior staff
- Planned fundraising events hosted by leaders of Fortune 500 companies
- Produced talking points and communications strategies for C-suite decision-makers

New Hampshire News Links, Editorial Assistant, 2006-2008

- Compiled daily briefing email for Democratic activists and influencers
- Published NH presidential primary website with news from local and national sources

### **BOOKS**

Hidden Mercy: AIDS, Catholics and the Untold Stories of Compassion in the Face of Fear (2021)

The Tweetable Pope: A Spiritual Revolution in 140 Characters (2015)

## **PODCASTS**

Plague: Untold Stories of AIDS and the Catholic Church (America Media, 2019-2020)

## **FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS**

GLAAD Media Award Nominee, Outstanding Online Journalism, 2022

Religion News Association, Excellence in Religion Commentary, 2022

Catholic Media Association, Best Multimedia Package, 2021

National LGBT Journalists Association, Excellence in Religion Coverage Award, 2020

Project Interchange Religion Journalist Fellowship in Israel, 2019

Thread at Yale: Storytelling in Modern Media, Participant, 2018

Catholic News Association, Best Feature Article: Honorable Mention, 2018

Religion News Association, Finalist, Mixed Media Category, 2018

CRS Egan Fellowship, Washington, 2017

U.S. Department of State LGBT Global Faith Working Group, Member, 2014