

Carl Staley moved to Peterborough with his wife Anne and 18-month-old daughter Johanna in 1982 after 4 years as a teaching fellow and doctoral candidate in philosophy at Boston College. They fell in love with the beauty of the Monadnock Region and the sense of community they found in Peterborough. With its rich cultural life and vibrant young families, Carl and Anne knew it was a good place to raise their own family.

Anne had a career as a special educator but Carl changed his plan to be a college philosophy professor and became a local building contractor -- instead of building new ideas, Carl turned ideas into buildings for over 30 years. While he may have left the academic world of philosophy, thoughtfulness has always characterized Carl's personal, professional, and community life.

Carl was a 9-year Happy Valley Preschool board member and participated in the Town's mid-1990s community visioning project. In 2005, he bought a rental property on Concord Street and needed to get a variance to make it into a 2-family home since it was a nonconforming use in the Family District. Rental availability was scarce even then but the Great Recession created an unprecedented lack of new construction for a decade. His direct experience with restrictive zoning and understanding of a decade-long housing loss led Carl to run and be elected to the Planning Board in 2022. Carl feels honored to serve the community he loves and believes that joining the Affordable Housing Committee will allow for a greater focus on finding housing solutions.