

MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION  
April 4, 2018

PRESENT: Chairman Dennis Donovan, Commissioners Art Kuever, Eric Bergman, MaryJo Phelps, Michael Knudsen, Lise Gazzillo (arrived 7:30 p.m. and left 8:32 p.m.)

Guests: First Selectman C. Goupil (arrived 7:24 p.m.)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Donovan noted that this Charter Revision Commission has only 6 months to do a major overhaul of the present charter and the last Charter Revision Commission had 18 months. This commission will do all they can to meet the 6-month timetable.

The effective date to be noted in the Charter is November 19, 2019.

Minutes of March 28, 2018:

A motion was made by E. Bergman, seconded by M. Knudsen to approve the minutes of March 28, 2018

Amendments to those minutes as follows:

- Page 1: under C. Walter's recommendations: add The First Selectman and the Board of Selectmen should **"not"**
- Page 1: under C. Walter's recommendations: change The Board of Finance to The Board of **"Selectmen"**
- Page 1: under C. Walter's recommendations: add **"two (2) alternates"** to the Fire Commission
- Page 1: the bullet under No one should hold 2 elected positions: add the voted unanimously that **"no"** one ...
- Page 2: under Section 8-12 third bullet: **remove Assistant**

The motion was amended to include the five amendments and this amended motion carried unanimously.

Section 7-6 B:

The Clinton Humans Services Advisory Board:

- Add as the last line the following: "There will be no term limit restraints."
- A motion was made by M. Knudsen, seconded by E. Bergman to add "There will be no term limits restraints on Section 7-6B. The motion carried unanimously.

Section 3-14:

Board of Police Commissioners:

- Add: Two (2) elected alternates
- A motion was made by L. Gazzillo, seconded by E. Bergman to recommend adding "two (2) elected alternates to the Board of Police Commissioners". The motion carried unanimously.

Section 8-7:

Fire Marshal; Deputies:

- Remove "to serve a four (4) year term" and "for the same term"
- A motion was made by M. Knudsen, seconded by MJ. Phelps to remove "to serve a four (4) year term" and "for the same term" from Section 8-7. The motion carried unanimously.

Section 9-3B:


- Change the words elective to elected.
- A motion was made by L. Gazzillo, seconded by E. Bergman to change the words "elective" to "elected". The motion carried unanimously.

MJ. Phelps read Bethany Knight's letter into the minutes regarding the merging of the Park and Recreation Department and Social Services. This letter is attached to these minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott  
Clerk

FW: Charter revision **Wendy McDermott**3/31/2018 10:27 AM **To** Art Kuever, Dennis Donovan (home)

As requested I am forwarding this information to commission members for their consideration.

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**From:** Mary Jo Phelps [mailto:[maryjo\\_phelps@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryjo_phelps@sbcglobal.net) (mailto:[maryjo\\_phelps@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryjo_phelps@sbcglobal.net))]**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 6:10 PM**To:** Wendy McDermott**Subject:** Fw: Charter revision

Hi Wendy -

Just forwarding an email I received from Bethany Knight - I will let her know you will send it to the entire commission. Thanks - Mary Jo

On Wednesday, March 28, 2018 9:29 PM, Bethany Knight <[knight.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:knight.bethany@gmail.com)  
(mailto:[knight.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:knight.bethany@gmail.com))> wrote:

I am sorry I got your meeting tonight too late for the public comment. Apologies.

My interest is in suggesting Clinton look at what the town of Groton has done to merge their social services and recreation department... Refocusing their energies on what it takes to support healthy families. It is so positive and hopeful and high energy. I actually met with the woman who heads up the merged department and was truly inspired. We are such a small town to try to maintain these two little departments... And I've noticed we have not been able to attract a director of social services... I believe is unrealistic to think they can also be a therapist and a good marketer. To divergent skill sets. I don't think towns in the year 2018 should be involved in offering therapy anymore anyway. Seems like a holdover from another era.

If you get a chance Google Groton Connecticut social services and see all the cool things I we are such a small town to try to maintain these two little departments... And I've noticed we have not been able to attract a director of social services... I believe is unrealistic to think they can also be a therapist and a good marketer. To divergent skill sets. I don't think towns in the year 2018 should be involved in offering therapy anymore anyway. Seems like a holdover from another era.

If you get a chance Google Groton Connecticut social services and see all the cool things they do. Maybe I should come to your next meeting and propose it?

Thanks for serving in that commission. Bethany