

MINUTES
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
April 11, 2018

PRESENT: Chairman Dennis Donovan, Commissioners Michael Hornyak, Lise Gazzillo, Mary Jo Phelps, Eric Bergman and Michael Knudsen

Absent: Art Kuever

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes of April 4, 2018:

A motion was made by MJ. Phelps, seconded by M. Hornyak to approve the minutes of April 4, 2018 as amended

- Amendments made to the March 28, 2018 and corrected in the April 4 minutes need to be corrected as follows:
 - The second dot: Page 1: under C. Walter's recommendations: she never mentioned Board of Selectmen
 - The second dot: Page 1: under C. Walter's recommendations: she has no problem with increasing the Board of Finance to a 7-member board
- The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: None

Visitors: None

Review of Charter recommendations:

Section 7-2 Terms of Office:

A motion was made by L. Gazzillo, seconded by M. Hornyak to add "C" to Section 7-2 as follows:

- "No one person may hold more than one (1) elected and two (2) appointed positions simultaneously on Boards or Commissions excluding ad hoc and subcommittees."

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by MJ. Phelps, seconded by L. Gazzillo to add "D" to Section 7-2 as follows:

- "No one person may hold more than three (3) appointed positions simultaneously on Boards or Commissions excluding ad hoc and subcommittees."

The motion carried unanimously.

Section 10-6 Expenditures and Accounting:

This section was discussed, some recommendations suggested, feel more research needs to be done and would like to get legal advice. This section was tabled.

E. Bergman would like to consider, review and discuss (if time permits):

- The Board of Selectmen has no oversight over lower level governmental bodies. Questioned whether there are state statutes regarding this issue. He would like to propose that the Board of Selectmen have powers to overrule another board and/or commission's decision. The commission needs to check the legality of this proposal with legal counsel.
- Remove party designees for the Board of Education during election.
 - In order to be on the ballot, all candidates would have to submit a petition
 - This would counter the party minority representation
 - More research needs to be done and get legal counsel
- Review the Board of Ethics
 - The Code of Ethics and state statutes need to be reviewed
- Explore the Representative Town Meeting concept of government
- Splitting the Planning and Zoning Commission
- Look into the Board of Finance and the bidding process

MaryJo Phelps would like to consider, review and discuss:

- Town Manager
- Board of Ethics

Lise Gazzillo would like to consider, review and discuss:

- Town Manager
- Restructure Social Services and Park and Recreation
 - Combining departments and creating a new department can be established with an ordinance

Dennis Donovan presented the proposed changes as made to the last charter. He noted the following items need to be reviewed and/or revised:

- What happens if the budget fails – who is responsible to make adjustments to the failed budget
- The Town Council is responsible for creating policies, ordinances and should have groups of sub-committees reporting to them:
 - Police Pension
 - Bonding
 - Annual Debt Service Committee
 - OPED – post benefits

The next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2018.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott
Clerk