

Charter Commission
November 28, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to Order at 6:30

Members present: Dwayne Woodsome. Lori Anthony, Marina Gagne, David Barker and Nancy Brandt. Absent were Steve Ross and Frank Allen.

Motion by Dwayne Woodsome to approve the minutes of October 10th, 2023, meeting with changes: motion seconded by David Barker. Motion carries 5-0-0.

Motion by Dwayne Woodsome to approve the minutes of October 17th with spelling change: motion seconded by David Barker. Motion carries 5-0-0.

Public Hearing date: Marina Gagne suggested holding the public hearing on December 12th. Dwayne Woodsome added if possible to have Atty. Natalie Burns at the same meeting. Motion by Dwayne Woodsome to set the Public Hearing on December 12th at 6:30 pm. Marina Gagne will post on social media, committees, and employees. Will send out emails to all committee and board members, including the Board of Selectmen, and Dave Lowe will handle the website. Dwayne Woodsome also added to include the members that did not attend tonight's meeting. Dwayne Woodsome made the motion if Atty. Natalie Burns is available on December 12th have her scheduled for 7:00 pm; motion seconded by Lori Anthony. Motion carries 5-0-0. Dwayne Woodsome suggest if not available could meet on another night/

Review workshop with Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and Planning Dept.:
Lori Anthony has no comments until meeting with Town Atty. Dwayne Woodsome agreed. David Barker added it is up to the Commission to figure out another way to communicate especially with newspapers being a thing of the past. Suggested the town send out a postcard for notification on voting, meetings etc. feels a simple mailing is a good way to communicate. Marina Gagne added that would be a good question for the attorney on how to get around newspapers. Also need to think ahead in regards to the charter. Nancy Brandt added charter review is 10 years. Lori Anthony added no constraint to x, y and z. David Barker would like best of availability by any means. Obligated by charter to use newspapers.

Charter review Article 1 and Article 2
Postponed until next meeting after meeting with attorney.

Discuss commission vacancy.

Marina Gagne reported only one vacancy currently with the likely hood of two more. An applicant has submitted a request to be appointed to the commission. Dwayne Woodsome added that this person works with the charter every day and is an employee of the town. Marina Gagne further added that she values his perspective and would not be negative. The Selectmen had informed the commission at the workshop, that the commission, is in charge of appointing members. Also, one member can be a non-

resident. Dwayne Woodsome made the motion to appoint Mike Gilpatrick to the Charter Commission; motion seconded by Lori Anthony. Motion carries 5-0-0.

Lori Anthony suggested reaching out for members also to include under announcements at meetings. Marina Gagne suggested using social media. Dwayne Woodsome asked how many meetings does members have to miss. Lori Anthony replied that on the Planning Board is it 40%. Dwayne Woodsome thought that it was missing 70% of meetings. David Barker added that the commission needs clarification. Dwayne Woodsome suggested that Marina Gagne should run it by the atty. Marina Gagne will contact the atty. And sent out letter to the members that have not been attending. Lori Anthony added to put in letter has to contact by a certain date. There was a majority of the members present to agree to have the chair discuss vacancies with the atty.

Old Business: Future agendas will have Miscellaneous Items in place of Old Business.

New Business: Remove from agenda.

Agenda items for Dec.14th meeting:

Vacancies

Public Hearing

Atty. Natalie Burns

David Barker suggests Articles 1, 2, 5, 6, & 7.

Adjournment: Motion by Dwayne Woodsome to adjourn; motion seconded by David Barker. Motion carries 5-0-0.

Next meeting December12th with Public Hearing at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Brandt, Secretary