

APR 29 2022

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NS**Charter Review Committee Minutes****March 30, 2022 at 4:15PM****Virtual-WebEx - recorded and available for viewing at the following link: <http://trurotv.truro-ma.gov/CablecastPublicSite/show/5311?channel=1>**

A quorum of committee members was present: Brian Boyle, Nancy Medoff, Cheryl Best, Robert Panessiti, Chris Lucy, Bill Golden, and Meg Royka (who arrived at approx. 5:30PM).

Also present were two members of the public. No Select Board member was in attendance.

The meeting was started at 4:20 PM. Chair Boyle invited the public to call in and gave the necessary information to do so.

1. Public Comment:

- No public comment

2. Agenda Item – Approval of minutes of prior two meetings

- January 24, 2022 meeting minutes
Edits were suggested by Ms. Medoff and made in the minutes. Ms. Medoff moved to approve amended minutes. Mr. Lucy seconded and all voted in approval of adopting minutes as amended.
- January 25, 2022 meeting minutes
Edits were suggested by Ms. Medoff and made in the minutes. Chair asked for other corrections and being none, he adopted the minutes as amended.
- March 1, 2022 meeting minutes
No corrections or edits were offered and the minutes were adopted as written.

3. Agenda Item – Annual Town Meeting and Election related charter changes (see packet)

- Chair Boyle presented Town Meeting warrant articles related to charter changes for committee vote as follows:
 - Article 35 – There was a discussion regarding whether the School Committee and administration were present at the warrant meeting and were in favor of being part of the Budget Task Force, as CRC votes depended on their support. It was confirmed by Mr. Panessiti and Ms. Clark, (through Chair Boyle's notes), that the School Committee and Administration were in favor of Article 35.
 - On a roll-call vote, the 6 CRC members present voted to support Article 35.
 - Article 36 – There was some discussion regarding whether increasing the number of signatures for warrant articles from 10 to 30 had been cleared by Town Counsel, as had been requested by the CRC. It was assumed Town Counsel reviewed it if it was an approved warrant article.
 - On a roll-call vote, the 6 CRC members present voted to support Article 36.
 - Article 37 – re: extending time for committees to fill vacancies
 - On a roll-call vote, all 6 CRC members voted to support Article 37.
 - Article 38 – Chair Boyle explained that Article 38 dealt only with gender-neutral language and would only be necessary if Article 37 was not adopted by Town Meeting.
 - On a roll-call vote, the 6 CRC members present voted to support Article 38.

- Article 39 – re: addition of the word *unexcused* to 4 consecutive absences on committees
 - On a roll-call vote, the 6 CRC members present voted to support Article 39.
- Article 40 - Chair Boyle explained that Article 40 dealt only with gender-neutral language and would only be necessary if Article 39 was not adopted by Town Meeting.
 - On a roll-call vote, the 6 CRC members present voted to support Article 40.
- Article 41 – There was discussion about the elimination of the Library Trustees from the new organizational chart, which had been requested by the Select Board. Questions arose as to whether it might be an oversight and if the Library staff and Trustees were in support. It was determined that the CRC needed further information prior to voting on this article.
 - **Action Item:** Chair Boyle will reach out to get the information necessary for the vote to take place at a later date.
- Article 42 – re: flexibility of election date to support the needs for possible delays in holding Town Meeting.
 - On a roll-call vote, the 6 CRC members present voted to support Article 42.
- Article 52 – re: changing Planning Board from elected to appointed – The Petitioner was allowed to speak in support of his article. The Chair then discussed the committee's ongoing study and option of not voting on the article until the study was complete. Mr. Panessiti moved to recommend Article 52. Ms. Medoff seconded the motion.
 - The following discussion points included: a review of the meeting packet and ongoing plan to study the issue; the length of time a good study takes; the unanimous CRC vote on an amended motion to make no change to the charter until further information was gathered and discussed regarding each of the studied committees; the fact that the petitioners desiring to change other committees were respecting the study process and not resubmitting petitions this year; the time lost in collecting low-value survey data and focusing too heavily on process; the assertion that the CRC had all the data it needed for making a decision; the fact that the Select Board voted 3 to 1 in favor of Article 52 and that they wanted the CRC to vote on it tonight.
 - Ms. Medoff called the question. Mr. Panessiti seconded. On a roll call vote, all 7 CRC members approved calling the question.
 - In a roll call vote on the motion to approve Article 52, four CRC members voted nay (Chair Boyle, Ms. Best, Mr. Golden, and Ms. Royka). Three CRC members voted aye (Ms. Medoff, Mr. Panessiti, and Mr. Lucy).

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4. Agenda Item – Committee's annual schedule and charge

- Next Public Hearing – Schedule
 - There was a discussion on dates and agendas for the public hearing. It was suggested that the CRC have two open public meetings: One to discuss elected v. appointed committees and the work we have done on the issue with community input; and a second as our annual public hearing on what we have done this year with an explanation of the articles we voted on for the public.
 - Dates were chosen for these two meetings
 - April 21 (at 4:15PM) - for an open public meeting to discuss the issue of elected v. appointed committees

- April 27 (at 5:00PM) for the annual public hearing on our year's work and warrant articles.

Action Item: Chair Boyle will develop a draft agenda for April 21 and send it to CRC members for input.

The essence of the meeting will be what is listed below

Appointed vs. Elected Committees/Boards

- Planning Board, ZBA, Board of Health, Cemetery Commission
- Discussion of:
 - Past information gathered
 - Proposed additional information to gather – e.g., Appendix A
 - Formulating a project plan
 - Resource requirements

5. Agenda Item - Items under consideration for calendar 2022 docket – see Appendix B

Not discussed at the meeting due to shortage of time.

6. Agenda Item - Other Issues from any Committee members

No new issues or business was raised.

7. Next Meeting Schedule

- The next meeting will be April 21, 2022 at 4:15PM and held as an open public meeting.

Mr. Panessiti moved to adjourn. Mr. Golden seconded and all 7 CRC members agreed on a roll-call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00PM

Respectfully Submitted



Cheryl Best

April 28, 2022

