

## **Charter Review Committee Minutes**

**January 25, 2021; 4:00 p.m.**

**Virtual-WebEx** - recorded and available for viewing at the following link: <http://trurotv.truro-ma.gov/CablecastPublicSite/show/4762?channel=1>

A quorum of committee members was present: Bob Panessiti, Brian Boyle, Nancy Medoff, Bill Golden, and Cheryl Best. (Committee members Chris Lucy, and Gary Palmer were absent)

Meeting was started at 4:00PM and Chair Panessiti invited the public to call in and gave the necessary information to do so.

### **Public Comment:**

- No one was present for public comment.

### **Agenda Item – Approval of Minutes**

- Ms. Best moved to approve. Mr. Boyle seconded and minutes were approved.

### **Agenda Item – Review Criteria and Process for Elected vs. Appointed Boards and Finalize Survey Monkey.**

- Ms. Medoff shared that she was not able to send out the survey for committee review because its current form is not available with a free account. A discussion followed regarding whether to purchase the program or reformat the survey. It was agreed that Survey Monkey might be something the Select Board would like to purchase for the town.
  - **Action** – Mr. Panessiti will investigate financing to purchase an account that would allow for use of the survey in its current form.
- The committee went over survey questions and format, and discussed how to distribute it.
  - **Action** – Ms. Medoff will send the survey to Mr. Panessiti, who will distribute it to the committee for review, [assuming the paid version of Survey Monkey is purchased.]

### **Agenda Item – Discussion of Charter Sections for Review**

- Two charter sections were discussed; 2.3.3 and 6.2.10.
  - 2.3.3 Ms. Best suggested an increase in the number of signatures for petitioning articles for the warrant, with a higher number necessary for charter changes. The committee discussed these recommendations with regard to number of signatures being a hard number or a percentage of registered voters. After discussion it was decided that the committee would recommend to the SB that the number of signatures be changed from 10 to 30 for all petitioned warrant articles.
  - 6.2.10 Committee members discussed the meaning of this section with regard to the question of calendar or business days for open positions on boards, and if the section relates to elected or appointed committees or both. It was suggested that 45 vacancy days is a short amount of time to move to committees making appointments for their empty seats. Ms. Best suggested that the wording might read that after 45 days, committees could recruit members but that the SB should still interview applicants at a public meeting before positions were filled. Discussion continued with no resolution at this time.
    - **Action** – Mr. Panessiti will research what Mass General Law says about filling open positions on boards.

Items for the next meeting were then discussed:

- Mr. Panessiti summarized the action items: Financing of the purchase of survey Monkey; and Mass. General Law regarding charter section 6.2.10.
- Mr. Panessiti told the committee he would share a statement for the Town Annual Report at the next meeting.
- It was decided that the KP Law opinion, regarding committees and boards that have statutory requirements for election or appointment, would be placed on the next meeting

**Meeting was adjourned at 5:09PM**

**Next Meeting: February 15 at 4:00PM, (with a backup of February 17 if necessary).**

Respectfully submitted,



Cheryl Best

