

Charter Review Committee January 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Members present: Larry Levine, Phil Adams, Jeff Bosworth, Bill Fonseca, Ralph Page, Andy Fraser, Marilyn Richards, Jeannie Quaglietti (non-voting)

Andy Fraser joined the meeting at 4:32pm

Meeting was held via Zoom and called to order at 4:30pm by Chair Levine.

Meeting was being audio and videotaped by ELCAT and there were no audience members taping.

Chairman Larry Levine started the discussion with Article 10 Transition provisions:

Chairman Levine stated that there was previous discussion that some of Article 10 may be Stale or moot and whether the article should be removed, modified or some other language added. Ralph Page stated that the transition provisions have for the most part been completed, and he would recommend the removal of this article from the Charter. He stated much like MGL when a new law is written the old law is removed. He thought for a cleaner, clearer Charter this article should be removed. Marilyn Richards asked what the problem is, with leaving the article in place. Ralph Page spoke and stated he thought it is confusing to people reading our Charter because they look at these provisions as a separate article still in effect. Bill Fonseca stated he thought for historical purposes article 10 should be left in the Charter and let the next Charter review committee decide if it should be removed. Marilyn thought this was a good idea and stated she felt historical dates should be added to the article stating when certain items were completed. Andy Fraser spoke and asked if there was a way to do both Ralph and Marilyn's suggestions. Chairman Levine suggested that we add language to the article stating this chapter is for historical purposes

Phil Adams made a motion to change the title of article 10, by adding the wording (; retained for historical purposes) Ralph Page seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Bill Fonseca yes, Larry Levine yes, Phil Adams yes, Jeff Bosworth yes, Marilyn Richards yes, Andy Fraser yes, Ralph Page yes, 7-0

Chair Levine stated our next discussion is language for the codification process. This language was supplied to the committee by the town's attorney. Additional language was supplied by Claudia from E-Code. Chair Levine asked Ralph what he thought of the language. Ralph stated he liked Jesse's language and suggestions. The extension of time for review being changed from 7 days to 14, the date for this codification to be completed. Chair Levine stated he was still concerned with the language allowing changes that were not highlighted within the document showing exactly what is being changed.

A lengthy discussion occurred amongst all committee members on how to accomplish the goal of accepting all changes to the bylaws at one time.

Bill Fonseca left the meeting at 5:16 pm

Marilyn Richards stated that the language requiring the majority vote of the Town Council may not be appropriate because the changes include zoning bylaw amendments which by state law would require a 2/3 majority. Jeannie will speak to E-code with regards to how other towns adopt such changes.

Next meeting will be January 26, 2021 at 4:30 pm

Phil Adams made a motion to adjourn at 5:32pm, the motion was seconded by Jeff Bosworth.

Roll call vote: Larry Levine yes, Phil Adams yes, Jeff Bosworth yes, Marilyn Richards yes, Andy Fraser yes, Ralph Page yes, 6-0

Respectfully submitted by Ralph Page