

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN
Charter Review Ad Hoc Committee
MEETING MINUTES OF
February 4, 2014

MEETING HELD IN THE CAUCUS HALL MEETING ROOM

Members Present: Judith Cicero, Thomas Coen, Marcy Feller, Doug Johnstone, Julia Perry, Robert Speiser, Robert Vetrick.

Members Absent: Ann Maguire (excused), David McGlothlin (excused), Mark Phillips (excused), Elizabeth Williams (excused).

Others Present: None

Chair Julia Perry called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Minutes of the January 7, 2014 meeting were reviewed.

Robert Vetrick moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 7, 2014, Thomas Coen seconded and it was so voted, 6-0-0.

Subcommittee minutes of the January 28, 2014 meeting were reviewed.

Doug Johnstone moved to approve the subcommittee meeting minutes of January 28, 2014 as amended, Marcy Feller seconded and it was so voted, 6-0-0.

Public Statements: None.

Judith Cicero joined the meeting at 5:10 pm.

Committee Timeline: Doug Johnstone has added the timeline to the Charter Review Ad hoc Committee page on the Town's website.

Committee Assignments: Chair Julia Perry distributed the committee assignment list for review and will bring back to the next committee meeting for further discussion as needed before placing the document on the website. Julia explained that the assignments can be exchanged between members but if any changes are made to please let her know so that she can update the listing. Judith Cicero discussed the need to review the roles of committees to see if there is a way to condense the number of committees. There was a general consensus to make this a future agenda item.

Committee Budget: Nothing new to report. The budget has been approved by the Board of Selectmen and will be reviewed by the Finance Committee in the next few weeks.

Board Response/Feedback: On January 14, 2014 Doug Johnstone e-mailed a follow-up message from the Chair to those boards listed in the Charter soliciting their input, and an e-mail message inviting comment was sent to those boards not listed in the Charter on January 21, 2014. Chair Julia Perry provided a brief update on response received to date, and placed responses

received under the notes section on the Committee Assignments Listing. Julia will update this listing and re-distribute as needed throughout the review process.

Discussion of the Charter continuing with discussion of Chapter 9, Sections 1 & 2: Thomas Coen to address these sections with the Finance Committee, the Finance Director, and ultimately the Board of Selectmen and bring his findings back to the committee.

Chapter 9, Section 3

9-3-1 Judith Cicero – Recommend that budget be available at Town Meetings.

9-3-1 Thomas Coen – Scope needs to be broadened to include specifications about Finance committee Recommendations Booklet to Town Meeting Voters, and define the components required in the letter from the Finance Committee.

9-3-1 Robert Speiser – Modernize language.

9-3-1 Marcy Feller – Consider adding the subject of audits to the section, or elsewhere in Chapter 9.

Chapter 9, Section 4

9-4-1 Thomas Coen – Questioned if this is the actual practice.

9-4-2 Thomas Coen – Needs clarification between the role of Acting Town Manager as defined earlier in the Charter with the term vacancy in this section.

Chapter 9, Section 5

9-5-1 Julia Perry – Questioned if this was State law. Thomas Coen replied that it was not, but there is a problem in that this information cannot be known until after the fact. He understands the intent but feels it may be unenforceable. Thomas will research the issue further with the Finance Committee and Town staff.

Chapter 10, Section 1

Doug Johnstone and Marcy Feller to review Section 1 in its entirety and bring back to the committee for full discussion.

10-9-1 Robert Vetrick – Needs review. Questioned why a recalled office holder can then be placed on ballot for re-election in the recall itself.

Chapter 10, Section 2

10-2-1 Doug Johnstone – Term Good Cause needs to be specified in glossary of terms.

10-2-1 Julia Perry – Who can initiate a complaint? Needs clarification.

Discussion of the Charter ended with Chapter 10, Section 2, with discussion of Chapter 10, Section 3 to be taken up at the next meeting.

Next Steps: Continued review of Charter beginning with discussion of Chapter 10, Section 3. Chair Julia Perry asked members to continue their review of the Charter and bring questions/suggestions to the next meeting.

Committee members to review Committee Assignment Listing and bring any comments/changes to the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will take place on February 18, 2014 at 5:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: *Robert Vetrick moved to adjourn at 6:15 P.M. and it was so voted unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Johnstone