



TOWN OF NORTON CHARTER COMMISSION

Board of Selectmen Meeting Room
Town Hall, 1st Floor

Monday, November 4, 2019
7:00 P.M.

Town Clerk Date/ Time Stamp

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NORTON TOWN CLERK
2019 DEC 18 P 1:06

~MINUTES~

1. **Call to Order: Roll Call, Ask / Announce Recording, Pledge of Allegiance**
The November 4, 2019 meeting of the Charter Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM, by Mr. Kevin Schleicher, Jr., Vice Chair.
Members Present: Ms. Janey Goodwin, Mr. Dave Heaney, Ms. Denise Luciano, Ms. Sandy Ollerhead, Mr. Keith Silver, Ms. Kerry Snyder, and Mr. David Wrenn.

Members Absent: Ms. Laura Parker
2. **Public Comment – Open forum**
No members of the public wished to speak.
3. **Information Gathering & Research - Interviews**
 - a. **Gold Star Committee, Town Common Revitalization Committee, Cemetery Commission: Mr. Bob Kimball**
 - Open Town Meeting is still the best option but we could modify the way it's done by holding public forums ahead of time for people to ask questions
 - Feels Representative Town Meeting has the same flaws as OTM and doesn't think we are ready for a Town Council
 - Water/Sewer department should be under the control of the Town Manager and part of a DPW with an engineer in charge; Commission should be appointed rather than elected
 - IT department for the entire town needed
 - Assessors should be appointed rather than elected
 - Finance Committee could have some positions elected and others appointed by boards
 - Norton Historic Commission and Historic District Commission should be combined
 - b. **Norton Housing Authority: Mr. Bob Salvo**
Mr. Salvo was unable to make the meeting and will be rescheduled for a later date.
 - c. **Water Bodies Committee**
 - Goal of the committee is to look into the invasive aquatic plant problem on the 4 water bodies in town
 - Supposed to be Conservation Commission standing member which they don't currently have
 - Stormwater regulations will help water bodies
 - Committee will be useful going forward in ensuring continued maintenance and monitoring
 - Need to continue to raise public awareness and get information out to people to get involved

- Need to look at the positions that are elected that should be appointed in order to get the most qualified people
 - Efficiency needs to improve in town
4. **Acceptance of prior meeting minutes**
A motion was made by Ms. Luciano to accept the minutes of October 22, 2019. Second by Mr. Wrenn. Vote: 7-Yes; 1-Abstained (Ms. Snyder)
5. **Discussion of administrative items, as needed**
- a. **Upcoming interview schedule update, if needed**
An updated schedule was distributed and discussed.
 - b. **Remote Participation: review of Town policy, discussion and vote**
The Remote Participation policy was distributed. A vote on whether the commission will accept the policy will be taken at our next meeting.
6. **Information Gathering & Research – Discussion**
- a. **Continuing discussion of additional information needed by Charter Commission, if needed**
 - Ms. Luciano has reached out to the Town Clerk to inquire about Town Meeting attendance and number of opposed elections. She will follow up with her in a week.
 - Mr. Schleicher has received some information from Mr. Yunits about annual costs the town pays the IT consulting firm. There are items that are not included in the cost he received which he will be following up on.
 - Mr. Wrenn reached out to Walpole and Dedham and received information about the participation rates they have for RTM. Dedham expressed that the amount of participation they have for RTM depends on what issues are going on in town.
7. **Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance**
8. **Next Meeting: Thursday, November 7, 2019**
9. **Action Items: Clerk to review**
If anyone has questions for Ms. Goldberg for the next meeting, please send them to Ms. Parker.
10. **Adjournment**
Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Snyder at 8:22 PM. Second by Ms. Luciano. Vote: Unanimous.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Danica M. Ollerhead

Minutes approved by the Board or Committee on: 11/18/19

Chairman Signature: Laura L. Parker