

Appendix B

To: Charter Review Commission
From: Gayle Weinstein
Date: June 13, 2013
Re: Charter Issues

Thank you all for agreeing to serve on Weston's Charter Review Commission. As you are aware, the Town Charter was amended and restated as of November 7, 2012. Since that time, we have had the opportunity to live with the consequences of the changes made from the previous Charter.

The Board of Selectmen is generally supportive of the amended Charter, however we have encountered two problems that we feel need to be rectified. The first problem concerns Section 8.3 (a) which states "The Board of Selectmen shall give Public Notice of the expiration of the term of office of any Officer appointed pursuant to Section 8.2..." While this certainly makes sense for Board and Commission Members listed in Section 8.2 (b), it does not make sense for appointed officers listed in Section 8.2 (a), as these are town employees, several of which belong to the Town Hall bargaining unit.

The second issue concerns the quorum call at the Annual Town Budget meeting. Section 9.5 (ii) states that "if and only if, at least two percent of Qualified Voters are present at the Annual Town meeting, any individual appropriation...may be reduced." While the Panel of Moderators Handbook states that a quorum may be called at any time, the Charter is silent as to the procedure that should be followed if there is not a quorum present.

We consider these issues more technical in nature than philosophical. By State Statute, we cannot limit the scope of your review, but we do wish to remind you that the very recent revisions to the Charter were voted on and approved by the residents of Weston.

Cc: David Muller
Dennis Tracey III