

MINUTES

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

August 17, 2011

Town Hall Meeting Room

A meeting of the Charter Revision Commission was held on August 17, 2011 in the Weston Town Hall Meeting Room. Present were Woody Bliss, Richard A. Bochinski, Nina Daniel, Arne de Keijzer, Kenneth C. Edgar, Jr., Susan Moch and Dennis H. Tracey, III. The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

The Commission discussed organizational and procedural issues relating to the Commission's consideration of revisions of the Town Charter.

Mr. Edgar reviewed the proposed framework for evaluating each article of the Charter. It was agreed that the Commission would consider each article of the Charter in sequence. With respect to each article, the Commission will consider the meaning of the provisions, how they are actually administered in practice, what legal restrictions apply, how other towns handle the issue, what comments the Commission has received from the public, and what changes should be considered.

The Commission agreed on the following procedures:

- All meetings will be televised;
- Certain issues will be delegated to smaller groups, including:
 - Drafting by Messrs. Edgar and Tracey and Ms. Moch
 - Consideration of other towns' charters by Messrs. Edgar and de Keijzer and Ms. Daniel
- Legal research will be conducted under the supervision of Mr. Tracey
- Agendas will be posted on the Monday of the week preceding meetings whenever possible so as to enable the substance of the meetings to be publicized by the Forum in advance of each meeting;
- Public comment will be solicited at each meeting of the Commission at the conclusion of consideration by members of each issue under consideration;
- Written comments will be welcomed from the public at any time.

The Commission agreed to solicit the comments of town public officials, including

- The Board of Selectmen (current and former)
- Board of Finance
- Board of Education
- Registrars of Voters
- Tax Collector
- Town Clerk
- Members of elective boards and committees

The Commission also agreed to seek the input of:

- The Town Administrator
- Town Attorney

In response to questions from Margaret Wittenberg, the Commission indicated that all comments will be available to the public. Ms. Wittenberg suggested that a separate public hearing be held on the budget process, which was taken under consideration by the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50.

Dennis H. Tracey, III, Co-Chair