

**Government Study Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 9, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm by chairman, Betsy Gordon. Other members in attendance were Eric Russo and Daniel Collins. The committee postponed approving minutes until all members had an opportunity to review them.

The committee mapped out plans for meetings between Feb. 9, 2011 and the March 22 meeting with the Advisory Board. At that meeting the Government Study Commission will present the final draft of the proposed charter revision which is to be voted on at the May 2011 town meeting. The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday Feb. 16 at 7pm: This meeting will review the final draft prior to sending it to town counsel

Thursday Feb. 17 at 7 pm: Meeting to be held only if unable to finish review of final draft at the Feb. 16 meeting.

Thursday Feb.24 at 7pm: Prepare presentation of charter revision for advisory board, town meeting and meetings with Norwell citizens.

Thursday March 3 at 7 pm: IF the town counsel has returned the draft, and IF there are changes of any consequences, we will need to meet to review those changes. If not, meeting will be cancelled.

Monday March 7 at 7 pm: Meeting with any board members or Norwell citizens who have questions or concerns about the charter revision.

Wednesday March 9 at 7 pm: Should changes be needed as a result of our meeting with board members March 7, then the committee will make those changes and send revisions to town counsel for a quick review of just those sections.

Monday March 14: Any final details. Final vote on draft. Work on presentation to Advisory Board etc.

Wednesday March 16: same as March 14 if further time is needed.

Tuesday March 22: Meeting with Advisory Board to discuss the final draft.

The committee reviewed a letter to be sent to town boards announcing an opportunity to meet with our committee March 7 to discuss the final draft. This letter will be sent out on or about February 17.

The committee reviewed notes made by a person working at the state house with knowledge of the format and statutes appropriate to a charter revision. Most of the suggestions and revisions were minor and approved by the committee. Questions concerning appointments as well as questions regarding the police and fire chiefs were discussed and either resolved or Dan will do additional research. Dan and Betsy will meet Monday morning with Andy Reardon and Jim Boudreau to be certain language

involving the fire department does not conflict with state statutes. As soon as all issues are resolved at the Feb. 16 meeting, the draft will be sent to the town counsel for review.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Gordon