

## **Town of Sturbridge**

### **Charter Review Committee**

#### Meeting Minutes, April 6, 2016

Meeting convened at 6:39 pm in Town Hall Conference Room #2 by Chairperson William Haggerty. Present: William Haggerty (WH), Sandra Gibson-Quigley (S-GQ), Paul Zapun (PZ), Bruce Boyson (BB) and Larry Morrison (LM).

SG-Q moved, PZ seconded a motion to accept the minutes of March 9, 2016, as submitted. Passed 5-0.

WH noted that the Town Clerk, in reply to his query, confirmed that there is no bar to the Charter Review Committee's plan to deliver its final recommendations and memo of collateral findings to the Selectmen and Town Administrator in time for the fall Special Town Meeting; it was further noted that such timing reflects the Committee's intention. The recommendations will be formatted through the computerized process of embedding in the current Charter a consistent and distinct color code that is matched to exhibit proposed new wording, proposed deletions and proposed capitalizations, respectively.

SG-Q led a review of work on the text to date. Several adjustments were made. These will eventually be found in the final recommendations, subject to subsequent further review between now and the Committee's final vote to deliver the document to the Selectmen and Town Administrator.

With respect to Sections 5-4 and 5-5, the Committee dwelled on BB's drafts. The aim is to compose a clear, unambiguous description of procedures set forth in those sections in the current Charter. The discussion featured numerous "what-if" questions designed to test the accuracy and completeness of the work in progress. The notion of reversing the order of the current Sections 5-4 and 5-5 arose with the general sense that, provisionally in the Committee's review process, this would be done.

Section 6-2 is seen as the potential subject of a recommendation to include it by reference. The content of Section 6-2 is undergoing revision by the Town Administrator and Town Clerk, as stated in the Committee's minutes of March 9, 2016.

WH requested and received unanimous consent to write and send a Report of the Charter Review Committee's Progress to the Selectmen and Town Administrator, to include an overview of the Committee's work plan and timetable.

SG-Q moved, PZ seconded a motion to adjourn. Passed 5-0 at 8:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Morrison, Clerk