

TOWN MEETING PROCEDURES REVIEW COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes for Meeting on March 4, 2010

Mr. Gossels presented a report from the Greater Boston Economic Study Committee that contained a Report on Wayland by the League of Women Voters. The study began in 1958 and was published in 1960. The document is for historical purposes. It pertained to an article in the March 4, 2010 Wayland Town Crier written by Bobbi Robinson. Mr. Correia volunteered to make copies/scan and distribute the document as a PDF file for the rest of the Members.

A. The meeting came to order at 7:39 p.m. Attending were: Peter Gossels (Chairperson); David Bernstein; Steve Correia; Miranda Jones; Richard Stack; and William Steinberg (the "Members"). Absent: Dennis Berry.

B. Mr. Gossels asked one of the Members to serve as secretary *pro tem*. Miranda Jones volunteered.

C. The Members discussed whether each person had received the three below-identified reports Mr. Gossels had distributed via email

1. Report of the Committee to Study Town Government: 1958;
2. Town Meeting Committee: 1978; and
3. Town Meeting Advisory Committee: 1984.

D. The Members approved the minutes from the February 25, 2010 meeting that Mr. Steinberg had submitted.

E. a. The members discussed the information sharing meeting that the Wayland League of Women Voters is holding on April 7, 2010, regarding the three warrant articles pertaining to Town Meeting. The League's meeting is the night before our public hearing on April 8, 2010, regarding the warrant article entitled "Warrant Article Debate

Website.” All members agreed that the more information conveyed to the public, the better.

b. Mr. Gossels mentioned that he sent an announcement concerning the three public hearings, which was published in the March 4, 2010 edition of the Wayland Town Crier.

F. The Members decided to leave the name of the committee as is.

G. The Members had a lengthy discussion about how to objectively and efficiently evaluate any proposals put before the committee pertaining to the three warrant articles upon which the Board of Selectmen have asked the committee to comment. The Members agreed that the Members would utilize a working document that addressed the following questions:

Does the proposal:

1. preserve Town Meeting as Wayland’s legislative body?
2. minimize unnecessary expenditure of time?
3. maximize the number of educated voters?
4. maximize the number of people who vote?
5. allow the voters to influence other voters?
6. promote debate?
7. allow voters to amend the articles?
8. allow voters to meet and question elected and appointed officials?
9. ensure that all registered voters have access to the legislative and voting process?
10. maximize the accuracy of the vote count?
11. maximize the number of residents who attend deliberation?
12. minimize expense?
13. allow voters to meet their neighbors/feel a sense of community?

H. The Members agreed that if we receive questions from the public outside of our scheduled meetings, we are to answer any questions the

public has from a personal viewpoint, and not speak on behalf of the Members.

I. We agreed to delay discussing the Australian ballot warrant article until after the March 11, 2010 public hearing on that specific article.

J. All agreed that the structure Mr. Gossels recommended in the Town Crier notice was appropriate for the public hearings.

K. We agreed to meet at 7:15 p.m. on March 11, 2010.

L. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.