

Bylaw Review Committee

Minutes

July 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Volunteer Room, Town Hall

Attendees: Paul Cohen, Corey Dufresne, Elaine Lazarus, Rick Maiore, Stephanie Opalka, Cindy Russo

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Introductions around the table.

Paul reviewed the Mission of the Bylaw Review Committee as he sees it. Essentially, we need to review existing bylaws and re-write/edit as necessary, write new bylaws to clarify and conform to the Charter. Hopefully the completion date of our work will align with the Annual Town Meeting so that changes may be voted upon.

Stephanie will go back and look at recommendations for changes or additional bylaws that the Charter Commission attempted to track through the writing process.

Rick thinks that the review committee should also consider procedural changes and incorporate these into the bylaws. We need to first review existing bylaws and identify ones that are obviously in conflict with the Charter.

Corey—thinks changes will be technical (Board of Selectmen to Select Board) and procedural, both changes and additional bylaws.

Clarification is needed on term expirations: when do terms expire for previously elected, appointed offices? Can a person remain on a committee after his/her term expires and vote?

Rick thinks that the bylaw review will break down into 3 categories: technical changes, new bylaws, and creative bylaw recommendations.

Corey will forward the Groton Annual Town Meeting warrant for 2008 when Groton completed their Charter and updated their bylaws. How did Groton approach this?

Stephanie is checking with Marlene Kenney to see if the bylaws will be available to us as a Word document so that we may easily edit on one document. [Achieved.]

Why are some 2016, 2017, 2018 bylaws not yet codified? Can this be done quickly?
Corey will distribute a pdf of the online Bylaw document.

Officer Elections: Paul Cohen, Chair, unanimous
 Cynthia Russo, Vice Chair, unanimous
 Stephanie Opalka, Clerk, unanimous

There was no public commentary.

Next meeting, August 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Adjourned at 7:15 pm