

SHARON GOVERNANCE STUDY COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 27, 2021

The meeting of the Sharon Governance Study Committee was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chair Paul Pietal.

Member attendance

Arguimbau: Present-7:20	Carver: Present	Geller: Present	Goodman: Present
Keenan: Present	King: Present	Monahan: Absent	Pietal: Present
Rangarajan: Present	Silverleib: Present	Wluka: Present	

Subcommittee updates

Mr. Keenan provided an update on the work of the Town Meeting subcommittee and reviewed the subjects it is charged with studying: 1. three forms of town government, open town meeting, representative town meeting, and town council; 2. using technology or other innovations to enhance voter participation and improve voter experience; and 3. the timing of town elections and town meetings. Members of the committee spoke about their expectations and goals for the upcoming work. The subcommittee members selected Mr. Keenan as chair in a unanimous vote. The members discussed the upcoming meeting schedule. They stated their desire to hear from numerous other communities regarding their governing structures. The subcommittee is slated to hear a presentation by Mark Hogan, the Sharon Town Clerk, on Nov. 3.

Mr. King provided an update on the work of the Boards and Committees subcommittee which also reviewed the subjects it is charged with studying. They would like to start with surveying citizens with a poll of some kind. They are investigating the medium for a survey, crafting meaningful questions, and whether a direct mailing may be possible.

The Collins Center

The committee was presented with information from Ms. Tanya Shallop and Mr. Michael Ward of the Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Policy. They explained that the Collins Center was created in 2008 by the Massachusetts legislature and has provided a comprehensive set of services to many of the Commonwealth's cities, towns, school districts, and state agencies as well as to a growing number of municipalities in other states.

Ms. Shallop and Mr. Ward explained the various ways the Collins Center can help this committee in its outreach, research, or with the development and creation of a charter document if that is what the committee suggests. They went on to answer several of the committee's questions.

Mr. Pietal thanked Ms. Shallop and Mr. Ward on behalf of the committee and extended his appreciation for their time this evening.

Liaison assignments

Mr. Pietal raised the committee's questions with the Personnel Board along with the committee's charge with respect to the personnel bylaws. They will have responses at their next meeting which is in mid-November. They agreed that the task of the personnel bylaw should perhaps be investigated by a body or individual with more experience in this area. If the committee agrees, Mr. Pietal would entertain a motion to update the Select Board. He has also sent the questions to the School Committee and is waiting to hear back.

MOTION: To return the Personnel Board bylaws back to the Select Board.
(Silverleib - Wluka)

Goodman: AYE	Carver: AYE	Geller: AYE	Silverleib: AYE
Keenan: AYE	King: AYE	Wluka: AYE	Pietal: AYE
Rangarajan: AYE			

9-0-0 **PASSES**

Mr. Keenan has met with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. They are willing to assist with outreach.

Mr. Pietal encouraged members to reach out to Boards/Committees assigned if they haven't already.

Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the September 22, 2021 meeting.
(Geller - King)

Goodman: ABSTAIN	Carver: AYE	Geller: AYE	Silverleib: AYE
Keenan: AYE	King: AYE	Wluka: ABSTAIN	Pietal: AYE
Rangarajan: AYE			

7-0-2 **PASSES**

Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:34 pm.
(Silverleib - Arguimbau)

Goodman: AYE	Carver: AYE	Geller: AYE	Silverleib: AYE
Keenan: AYE	King: AYE	Wluka: AYE	Pietal: AYE
Rangarajan: AYE			

9-0-0 **PASSES**