

SHARON GOVERNANCE STUDY COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 15, 2021

The meeting of the Sharon Governance Study Committee was called to order at 7:33 pm by Chair Paul Pietal.

Member attendance

Arguimbau: Present	Carver: <i>Absent</i>	Geller: Present	Goodman: Present
Keenan: Present	King: Present	Monahan: Present	Pietal: Present
Rangarajan: Present	Silverleib: <i>Absent</i>	Wluka: Present	

Town Administrator Fred Turkington and Town Clerk Mark Hogan were also in attendance.

Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the November 10, 2021 meeting as corrected.
(King - Keenan)

Arguimbau: AYE	Wluka: Abstain	Geller: AYE	Goodman: AYE
Keenan: AYE	King: AYE	Monahan: AYE	Pietal: AYE
Rangarajan: Abstain			

7-0-2 **PASSES**

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the December 1, 2021 meeting with suggested correction.
(Goodman- Rangarajan)

Arguimbau: AYE	Wluka: AYE	Geller: Abstain	Goodman: AYE
Keenan: AYE	King: AYE	Monahan: AYE	Pietal: AYE
Rangarajan: AYE			

8-0-1 **PASSES**

MAPC - Mark Fine and Brian Luther

Mark Fine and Brian Luther of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council attended to discuss. Mark and Brian work on municipal services projects. MAPC is a regional planning agency for 101 communities in Massachusetts. They provide technical assistance to eight subregions for smart growth and regional collaboration. MAPC provides collective purchasing, community engagement and data services for the communities they serve.

Mark and Brian provided examples of recent projects for the community of Dedham and the Metro West subregion which are similar to the work of this committee and answered the committee's questions. They discussed the nature of the data collected and how they may help Sharon's Governance Study Committee complete the work outlined in their mission or simply to help collect data. It's up to the committee if and how they would like to engage with MAPC.

Subcommittee updates

The TM subcommittee has not had a meeting since their last update. They will meet again on December 22.

The Board and Committee subcommittee met on December 13 and had a guest speaker, Michelle Shain, who spoke about surveys. It was suggested that the questions should be broad. It was also suggested that paying a third party to collect and analyze data would be best.

Public hearing

This item came up as part of the update Mr. Pietal provided to the Select Board. After a brief discussion, the committee's consensus was that it is too early to plan for a public hearing. This will be discussed again at a future meeting.

Other business

There was a discussion involving posting notices under open meeting law. Ms. Monahan explained that the default in Sharon is a physical posting location. Towns do have the option to have the website as their default posting location and inquired about recommending this to the Select Board.

Mr. Hogan explained his feeling that it may not be a good idea to make the website primary in the event that the website goes down, power goes out or there is an internet outage in the area. He suggested that perhaps the Select Board could make it a policy to post online as well but does not recommend online serving as the primary location. Ms. Monahan understood and also commented that indeed, outages of any kind with a duration exceeding 6 hours would result in an improper posting.

The committee also discussed the possibility of proposing that all Boards and Committees make their meeting materials available as well similar to ZBA or Planning Board.

There was a brief discussion about the date and time of the next full committee meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on January 12 at 7:30 pm.

Adjourn

At 9:13 pm, seeing no further business to come before the committee, Mr. Pietal adjourned the meeting.