

SHARON GOVERNANCE STUDY COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 16, 2022

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: Absent	Geller: Present	Goodman: Present
Keenan: Present	King: Present	Monahan: Present	Pietal: Present
Rangarajan: Present	Wluka: Present		

Prepare Select Board update

The committee is due to give another update to the Select Board. The last update was given in December. If the committee is okay with him doing so, Mr. Pietal will review the minutes and develop a draft for the committee to review for the March 30 meeting.

It was asked where the committee stood with respect to the assistance from MAPC. Although nothing has been received yet by MAPC, they indicated they would get back to the committee in March.

Subcommittee updates

Mr. Keenan provided an update for the Town Meeting subcommittee meetings. The subcommittee met last on March 9. Mr. Robert Hiss, Moderator for Milton, was the guest speaker. Milton has had a very large representative Town Meeting for many decades. There are 279 elected voting members from ten precincts in the community plus ten elected or appointed officials who also attend. Mr. Hiss also explained that he is the appointing authority for about ten boards and committees. Their discussion also covered the demographics of Milton, remote meetings, and electronic voting at Town Meeting. Mr. Keenan also mentioned that for the first time, Milton will not be printing the Town Meeting warrant this year. In response to Ms. Monahan's question, it was explained that Milton's Town Meetings typically go three to five evenings during the week. Whether or not weekend dates were an option did not come up. However, it was noted that non-voting residents have the ability to speak at Town Meeting with prior approval of the moderator.

A potential survey was developed based on the survey shared by the community of Westboro which the subcommittee suggested should be distributed at the upcoming Annual Town Meeting to capture the thoughts and demographics of those who attend. The full committee commented on the proposed questions and asked for the rationale behind some of the demographic information being collected. There was a discussion on why only Town Meeting attendees were being surveyed. Ms. Arguimbau explained that a survey for those who do not attend Town Meeting is being discussed and planned for the future as well. There will be a chance for everyone to have input. The Town Meeting subcommittee felt it important to attempt to find out why people go as well as why they don't go to Town Meeting. It was agreed that the Town Meeting subcommittee would finalize a survey based on tonight's comments.

MOTION: The Town Meeting subcommittee will finalize a survey for distribution at May ATM (Wluka - Geller)

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

8-0-1 **PASSES**

Natick is also forming a Governance Committee, and the committee felt it would be interesting to see their charge. Mr. Portal has also been monitoring the Town Clerk's page for others who may have taken out papers for Select Board. At this time, as Kevin Haskins and Sam Liao have taken papers, it makes sense to invite them

to come to a future meeting of the full committee if there are no objections. Seeing none, Mr. Pietal will reach out to Mr. Hogan to extend the invitation.

Liaison updates

Mr. Goodman is making progress with the School Committee and has recently spoken with another member. Mr. Wluka is expected to talk with the Board of Health at their March 23rd meeting. Ms. Arguimbau is meeting with the Planning Board on March 24 but they have been very busy with the zoning codification project for the upcoming Town Meeting.

Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of January 26, 2022.
(Wluka- Arguimbau)

Arguimbau: Aye	Geller: Aye	Goodman: Abstain	Rangarajan: Aye
Keenan: Aye	King: Aye	Monahan: Aye	Pietal: Aye
Wluka: Abstain			
7-0-2 PASSES			

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the February 9, 2022 meeting.
(Geller- King)

Arguimbau: Aye	Geller: Aye	Goodman: Aye	Rangarajan: Aye
Keenan: Aye	King: Aye	Monahan: Aye	Pietal: Aye
Wluka: Abstain			
8-0-1 PASSES			

The committee tabled a vote on the meeting minutes of March 2, 2022 so they could be revised to include more detail about the conversation with the Town Administrator.

Topics not anticipated within 48 hours of posting

With regard to the update for the Select Board, the committee had no objections to Mr. Pietal's plan for presentation. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 30 at 7:30 pm.

Adjourn

Seeing no other business to come before the committee, Mr. Pietal adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.