

## **Charter Committee Minutes**

**February 8 , 2024**

**Members Present:** Morgan Dawicki, Lilia Cabral-Bernard , Cathy Melanson , Robert Grindrod, Marybeth Vargas

**Absent:** Brendalee Smith

**Others Present:** Fairhaven TV , Town Counsel Heather White

Meeting called to order by Morgan Dawicki at 6:40 PM

Pledge of allegiance: No flag in room

**Roll call of committee members:** Cathy Melanson, Marybeth Vargas, Morgan Dawicki, Lilia Cabral-Benard and Robert Grindrod. Five members present

### **Approval of minutes**

Approval of 11/29/23 minutes. Motion to approve by Cathy , seconded by Lilia. Roll call for approval. Unanimous 5-0

**Public Comment:** None

### **Discussion/Action**

- Heather White to review draft of Charter with committee. She sent updated copy which was given to all members. Sharing screen with members on updated Charter, Will go through each area and answer questions/provide clarification.
- General comment from Lilia that font should be Calibri not Times New Roman.
- General comment from Bob. Had been out with medical issues, feels revised draft has changed substantially. He feels the tone of what we are doing has changed with revisions. Discussed dual purpose of charter to also be handbook for citizens.
- Heather stating Charter should be the Constitution of the Town. Should be solid and not easily changed. Highest level document that establishes the structure of the government .Discussion among committee members and Heather regarding document. Heather states she also made document gender neutral.
- Propose we go through each article with the changes and discuss each section. All articles reviewed with committee with questions being asked individually by committee members. Included are recommendations by Town council , Town Administrator and Town Moderator.

Noted deadline for having this document on warrant and allowing time to speak with community and members of boards/departments in town.  
Members agree should reconvene in 2 weeks after reviewing document and suggested changes and questions.

**Next meeting:** Next meeting set for 2 weeks , Thursday February 22 at 6:30 pm

**Action Items:**

1. Committee members to review document

**Motion to adjourn**

Motion made to adjourn by Cathy , seconded by Bob. Roll call vote to adjourn unanimous.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Marbeth Vargas

Secretary for Charter Committee