

TOWN OF FRAMINGHAM

GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 2, 1999

ATTENDANCE:

M.Beradi, C. Gerstein, W. Haberman, R. Halliday, E. Levay, R. Patterson, J.Robertson, R. Snider, J. Winet. (9 members, there are no unfilled positions).

NEW MEMBERS:

The vacancy has been filled; several members have not been reappointed to their terms at expiration. New members, Haberman and Snider, are present tonight. New member Pedulla called Ed Levay and mentioned he could not attend due to a previous engagement.

MINUTES:

Members voted to accept the minutes of the 11/3 meeting as presented by a vote of 5 in favor 0 against, 2 not voting .

REMOVAL OF TOWN MEETING MEMBERS:

Members discussed the excerpt from the Swampscott charter that provides for removal of Town Meeting members (provided by E. Leave). Bill Haberman cautioned that while this is doable via a Special Act, it may not be so via the Bylaw method which we have tried several times(defeated). He volunteered to pursue with Aaron Bikofsky.

SELECTMAN INTERVIEWS:

Not completed yet.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS - STATUTORY DUTIES:

The Public Works Commissioners seem to assert that they do have certain statutory duties and that they continue to have a role to play other than advisory. There was discussion on this subject. We will revisit this item at future meetings.

HEARINGS:

John Kahn's proposal to adopt a uniform format of rules for conducting hearings was discussed including a brief presentation for the new appointees at this session.

BOB BONNEVIE:

Bob was not reappointed to a seat on the committee. Members voted to send a letter of appreciation to for his services to the Committee. Vote was 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 not voting .

FUTURE STATUS OF THE GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMITTEE:

There has been suggestions to change the method of appointments to the Government study committee. The Moderator proposes to open it up to Town Meeting (like Standing Committees), some of us want to keep it a Moderator appointed committee and there appears to be some support for having the Selectmen

do it. Discussion ensued. We agreed to have any revision handled at the same time as changes are made to the Rules and Standing Committees.

MINUTES ON FILE:

In the past members have mentioned that it appears some Boards, Committees Commissions do not have Minutes filled in the Library. Members agreed that this is not a Library problem but a function of the Town Clerk's Office even if the Library is the chosen repository for such records. Discussion followed. There was a suggestion to amend the existing Bylaws to make the Town Clerk responsible for pursuing Boards, Committees and Commissions for Minutes and making sure that they are properly filed in the Library. Joel Winet volunteered to follow up with the Town Clerk.

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Up and running. Members will come in with suggestions for Government Study Committee items to be presented.

NOVEMBER 9, TOWN MEETING, ARTICLE 5:

Chuck Gerstein brought up the subject of Article 5 where the Town Manager has proposed additional reorganization by transferring Veteran's Services and Human Relations to Human Services Dept. and Council on Aging to Parks and Recreation. discussed. We have discussed some of this in the past, especially Veterans. Since these are all within the Town Manager's functions, Bill Haberman made a motion to support the proposed changes and we voted 7 Yes to 0 No, 2 Not Voting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Election of officers were held and the following were nominated or volunteered and all were confirmed by a vote of 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Not Voting.

Chair.....Robert Patterson

Vice – Chair....Robert Halliday

Clerk.....Edward Levay

NEXT MEETING:

January 5, 2000, new agenda item - Permanent Building Committee.

Respectfully Submitted, Edward Levay.