

Town Government Study Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2019

7:15 pm – Room 124

Commission Members	Other
Chairman Jonathan Smith - present	
Secretary Anthony Turi - absent	
Kristen Balash - present	
Anthony Kennedy - present	
Gary Sullivan - present	
Jeff Chalmers - present	

Meeting convened approximately 7:33 pm. The committee did not approve any minutes as they were not yet ready.

Welcome Gary Sullivan (new member)

Gender neutral bylaws recap

- It passed. Good signal to residents, people who may move here, about town values.
- Anthony Turi already made changes and it's been accepted by AG's office.
- Any learnings? We didn't need to speak – we read the room and let Advisory Board handle questions. What can we do to better engage advisory board for future articles – request more facetime for next articles.

Communications/Other topics:

We were on Ann Marie Battistone's NCTV show.

Town-wide communication – does NCTV track analytics? We might have several channels of communication that are opposed to each other – like the rumor mill. How can we combat it?

How do we get involved in social media circles? Hard to have engagement. Town webpage and Facebook page is limited - can post, but can't discuss.

Website is an issue. Not updated enough.

How can we ensure that each dept is owning their webpage? Talk about meeting with Blythe?

Each office has short video – welcome to our dept. – give faces to names.

Library and school committee are not well-coordinated – can we do something about that?

Maybe push for liasons between departments. How are Select Board envisioning their liaison roles? How to we build in coordination for boards

Anthony K talked about tri-board meeting concept.

Budget portrayal – TGSC to recommend to Blythe and Finance Director to include actual spending column to future budget presentations.

We want to recommend funding staffing and capacity study for Fall Town Warrant. Can we get sense from Blythe and Select Board if this is of interest?

Gary and Kristen to review research – Mass Municipal Association? Other towns?

Research case studies. What is the scope – how wide or narrow?

Jonathan reach out to Blythe and ask about meeting this summer, either will full TGSC or subset.

Ask to be on Select Board agenda for August 13 2019

Discussed concept of town e-Newsletter

Kristen to create Doodle poll for next meeting before Aug 13 Select Board Meeting

Kristen to create Google form for all committee members to send three questions for Blythe (which will go to Jonathan).

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 pm