

Advisory Committee
August 12, 2015
Felix Juliani Meeting Room, Town Hall

Tom Frisardi called the meeting of the Wellesley Advisory Committee to order at 7:00pm. Those present included Mary Crown, Tom Fitzgibbons, Chad Harris, Mike Hluchyj, Mark Kaplan, Michael Mastrianni, Ria Stolle, Scott Tarbox, and Kathleen Woodward.

Citizen Speak No one wished to speak at this time.

Town Government Study Committee (TGSC)

Rose Mary Donahue, Stanley Brooks, Thomas Ulfelder and Ann Marie Gross, members of the Town Government Study Committee, gave the presentation.

Rose Mary Donahue gave a presentation on the recommendations the TGSC plans to bring before STM this fall regarding land use. She explained that land use encompasses more than just permitting. It's about the way in which a community uses land from housing to open space. Many of the boards in town play a role in land use, and after an exhaustive interview process of those boards, the TGSC is recommending the creation of a Land Use Division (LUD). The Land Use Division would include the following Departments and Boards: Planning Department, Planning Board, ZBA Executive Secretary, Zoning Board of Appeals, Natural Resources Department, Natural Resources Commission, Building Department, Wetlands Protection Commission, Historical Commission, Design Review Board, Historic District Commission, Wellesley Housing Development Corporation, and Neighborhood Conservation District.

The purpose of the LUD would be to provide an administrative structure to bring the various land use boards and departments under the supervisory responsibility of a Director of the Land Use Division. This new department would improve communication amongst the various departments and boards as well as improve the services provided to townspeople. The Director of the Land Use Division would be a Deputy Town Manager, who would report to the Town Manager, and who would be responsible for the development and administration of division-wide and departmental budgets for all areas of the Land Use Division.

Old Business/New Business

Tom Frisardi recognized Catherine Johnson, a Town Meeting Member and the Vice Chair of the Planning Board. Catherine asked to speak to the AC as an "individual," not as a representative of the Planning Board. Catherine acknowledged that the TGSC recommendations might help facilitate the permitting processes in town; however, she asked the AC to consider how the TGSC recommendations would address the "bigger" issue of overdevelopment in Wellesley.

Liaison Reports

Advisory Committee members provided reports on the Town Government Study Committee and the School Building Committee.

Approval of Minutes

None were presented at this time.

The Advisory Committee will meet at 7:00pm on August 26th in the Juliani Room of Town Hall. Tom Frisardi adjourned the meeting at 9:40pm with no objections.