

Advisory Committee
August 26, 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, John Hartnett, Mike Hluchy, Mark Kaplan, Michael Mastrianni, Frank Pinto, Alena Poirier, Sara Raveret, Mason Smith, and Kathleen Woodward.

Citizen Speak No one wished to speak at this time.

Town Government Study Committee presentation and discussion

Katherine Babson, Thomas Ulfelder, and Rose Mary Donahue presented and discussed two memos from the TGSC: an 8/20/15 memo regarding the proposed Town Manager position; and an 8/21/15 memo regarding the Human Resources Process.

First, Tom Ulfelder explained that there is a proposal to form a study committee to look at the role of the DPW Board if the Town Manager position is approved. The committee would look at whether a DPW board is needed—and, if so, whether the board should be elected or appointed.

Katherine Babson reviewed the fall timeline for the TGSC and the process going forward. The group discussed the proposed new Town Manager position, including the process that led to the recommendation of a Town Manager; where Wellesley would be on the “centralized vs. decentralized” form of Town Manager structure; duties and responsibilities of the Town Manager; and the appointment, evaluation, and removal of the Town Manager.

Proposed changes to the town’s HR functions, including changes in responsibilities for the HR Board, the HR Director, and the Town Manager, were discussed. The recommendations would be implemented with the approval of the Special Act and with amendments to the town’s bylaws. The TGSC has also spelled out administrative recommendations that should be considered by the Town Manager and the HR Director. Whether the Town Clerk should be elected or appointed was discussed.

Reports from TGSC Liaisons

Advisory Committee members provided reports on the TGSC, the NRC, HHU, the Planning Board, and the Facilities Projects Working Group.

Old Business/New Business

Tom Frisardi discussed the AC fall calendar: School Security on 9/16; no meeting on 9/23; a proposed meeting on the morning of September 26th; Hardy/Hunnewell/Upham on 9/30; and the public hearing for the STM on October 7th. The AC would like to invite a few town boards to share their opinions on the TGSC’s recommendations—the Library, NRC, HR, and the BOS were suggested. The AC Report for the STM should be mailed by October 22nd. Tom is working with HR to hire an assistant to the AC.

Approval of Minutes

Mary Crown made a motion to approve the minutes of July 29, 2015. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

The next Advisory Meeting will be on Wednesday, September 9th, in the Juliani Room in Town Hall.

Tom Frisardi adjourned the meeting at 9:10pm with no objections.