

Advisory Committee
November 12, 2015
Faculty Dining Room, Wellesley Middle School

Tom Frisardi called the meeting of the Wellesley Advisory Committee to order at 6:05pm. Those present included Mary Crown, Tom Fitzgibbons, Chad Harris, Mike Hluchyj, Mark Kaplan, Michael Mastrianni, Frank Pinto, Sara Raveret, Mason Smith, Ria Stolle, and Scott Tarbox. John Hartnett arrived at 6:12pm and Alena Poirier arrived at 6:20pm.

Citizen's Speak

No one wished to speak at this time.

Discussion concerning motions under Articles 3 through 6 of the warrant for Special Town Meeting and proposed amendments thereto

Don McCauley's Amendment to Warrant Article 3A

Don McCauley discussed his amendment to Warrant Article 3A, Section 3(B)(5): "The town manager shall direct the operational ~~and strategic~~ planning **and implement the strategic planning** for the town." This is a "housekeeping" matter to clarify that the town manager will be responsible for implementing the strategic plan, which will be developed by the Board of Selectmen.

Sara Raveret recommended favorable action on the amendment proposed by Don McCauley to Warrant Article 3A, Section 3(B)(5). Frank Pinto seconded the motion; the motion carried by a show of hands, 11-0.

Laura Fragasso's Amendment to Warrant Article 3A

Laura Fragasso explained that her amendment, which is based on the town of Weston's form of government, preserves the independence of the elected boards while allowing a town manager to have authority over budgets, operations, and personnel policies. With her proposal, the elected boards would preserve their authority to hire and evaluate their own staff, with the assistance of the town manager, and to terminate an employee, in consultation with the town manager. Ann Marie Gross from the Town Government Study Committee (TGSC) pointed out that this proposal would not resolve the personnel issues the TGSC's proposed Town Manager form of government would address.

Michael D'Ortenzio's Amendment to Warrant Article 3A

Michael D'Ortenzio explained that his amendment would keep the town clerk as an elected position. He believes an elected town clerk would most likely have previous involvement in the town, which would be advantageous, and would be more likely to stay in the position for a longer period of time than an appointed town clerk (the average term of service for Wellesley's elected Town Clerks is 17.5 years).

Sara Raveret recommended favorable action on the amendment proposed by Michael D'Orenzio to Warrant Article 3A, Sections 3(B)(2) and 5; Warrant Article 3C, Section 20.3.b.; and Warrant Article 4D, Section 26. Chad Harris seconded the motion; the motion was defeated by a show of hands, 2-11. The Advisory Committee will recommend unfavorable action on this amendment.

Marla Robinson's Amendments to Warrant Article 3A

The committee only had time to discuss one of Marla Robinson's amendments, which is to add the following language to Warrant Article 3A, Section 2(A): "No person holding elective public office in the town with the exception of a town meeting member, **or any person serving as a member of an appointed town board or committee, or any consultant paid by the town** shall, within twelve months of holding the office **or being employed by the town as a consultant**, be eligible for appointment as town manager." Marla Robinson maintained that this amendment would result in full vetting of all

candidates. Ann Marie Gross explained that the search process established by the Board of Selectmen to hire a Town Manager already ensures a thorough vetting process for any potential candidate for the town manager position.

New business/old business

None was presented at this time.

The next Advisory Committee meeting will be on November 16th at 6:00pm in the Faculty Dining Room of the Wellesley Middle School.

Adjourn

Tom Frisardi adjourned the meeting at 6:55pm, recognizing that votes by the committee might need to be taken during the Special Town Meeting later in the evening. (No further action by the Advisory Committee was taken.)