

The Board of Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, January 29, 2013 in Room 112 of the Town Hall. Mr. Kraus was absent. The following members were present.

Michael Berry, Vice Chairman  
Mark Gallivan, Clerk  
Christopher Timson  
Nancy Mackenzie

Also present:  
Michael Boynton, Town Administrator  
Cindy Berube, Executive Assistant

Mr., Berry called the meeting to order.

#### Charter Discussion

Mr. Boynton does not want to get into any specifics. Really two choices: one is a discussion whether changes should be made now. If operationally we are in good shape the discussion gets put on hold. The most common way to recommend changes is to refer to an article to Town Meeting for the creation of a Charter Review Committee. He would not recommend having the Board appoint a charter review committee. It is not something that has happened in Walpole before. He is not surprised by the lack of responses from various departments.

Mr. Berry imitated the discussion as it says the town should review the Charter every 8-10 years. Mr. Timson had served on the last Committee. The process is done every decade, it is not out of the norm to have this conversation.

Library Board of Trustees- they were seeking to add a 6<sup>th</sup> member to the Library Trustees, to make compliant with the law. They listed their reasons for that change.

Cindy compiled a sheet outlining in other town's what appointment powers are of each board, what boards/com are elected.

Mr. Timson noted the letter from Mr. Clifton Snuffer suggested a review if needed should be done in public process. There is no cry for changes from Department Heads of Boards. The best thing for us to do is to make a report at town meeting, as to what we have done and where we are at. Informally, find out if there is will and desire to put together a committee, get some public input. My sense, in looking at the information we were given there is not a desire to change how we do things in Walpole.

Under Article 1 we should make a report. That should be the next step. I do not know if you want more info how the last committee worked. He explained how the committee was formed.

Mr. Gallivan agreed there is no cry from department heads to change anything. He suggested maybe a presentation at town meeting. Mrs. Mackenzie suggested a separate night with an overview of the Charter and take questions. Maybe a peer review of the Charter.

Mr. Boynton noted the managers association could come in and speak on this issue. I am taking a step back; I am not going to make a recommendation to you about the organization. You represent the residents, how you want this town to be governed. They are the only group, maybe the Mass Selectmen's association.

Mr. Boynton noted if the Board is looking to have the Charter reviewed, that is the role of the Charter Review Committee.

Mr. Gallivan thinks it is a good idea to have this discussion, he does not want to divert a lot of attention on this issue this year, some time in the future, his suggestion do not do this now, wait until there is a list of items. Some where down the road do a presentation to Town Meeting. Not bad to educate people how it works and to educate people.

Mrs. Mackenzie mentioned putting a table together explaining what town government does. Do it on Walpole Day. She would like to see more people involved. The Board should discuss the Charter again next year.

Since the Library is the only committee who sent a possible change, let them know at this time we are not moving forward as the Board is still gathering information.

(Mr. Timson left the meeting to attend the Coalition for Alcohol and Drug Awareness meeting)

#### JWCW, A-Frame

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to approve the A-Frame on the Common for the JWCW to advertise Trivia Night, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 3-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Gallivan To adjourn at 8:00 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Mackenzie, VOTED 3-0-0