

**MINUTES – DRAFT
TOWN OF GROTON
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
July 7, 2008
TOWN HALL ANNEX – COMMUNITY ROOM 1**

1. Members Present: Frank "Mick" O'Beirne, Shirley Dunbar-Rose, Nancy Moffat, Richard Moravsik, Raymond Munn, Ed Stebbins, and John Wirzbicki
Members Absent: Robert Frink
Also Present: Town Clerk Barbara Tarbox and Office Assistant Lori Watrous

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. A motion was made by Commissioner Stebbins, seconded by Secretary Dunbar-Rose to approve the minutes of June 30, 2008. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Munn arrived at this point.

3. COMMUNICATIONS
 - a. Chairman: A communication from Jack Sebastian regarding a referendum was received and will be discussed at the same time as comments received from the Charter Revision Commission Public Hearing on July 14, 2008.
 - b. Secretary: None
 - c. Members: None
4. CITIZEN COMMENTS
None
5. OLD BUSINESS
None
6. NEW BUSINESS

Members discussed *Report of the Charter Revision Commission* dated July 7, 2008.

Overview

- a. In the list of names change Commissioner Stebbins middle initial to "L".
- b. Insert a *new* fifth paragraph which discusses the approach taken by Commissioners when revising the Charter. The Town Clerk will draft this new paragraph.
- c. Add a sentence at the end of the fifth paragraph which reads: "The section references are to the current 1987 Charter."
- d. Chairman O'Beirne will develop a matrix comparing old and new paragraph numbers. This may become a handout for the public hearing.

Enclosure (2) – Listing of Changes to the Current Charter

- a. In the first paragraph underline the words "Chapters and sections referenced are those of the current 1987 Charter."
- b. Chapter V – Appointive Officers – Boards and Commissions
 1. Sec. 5.3 thru 5.11
 - a) Change the heading "Sec. 5.3 thru 5.11" to read "Sec. 5.3 thru 5.10".
 - b) In the second sentence change the words "This to allow" to read "This is to allow".
 - c) Change the last sentence to read "Procedures on filling and removing personnel from Boards and Commissions have not changed except for requiring six votes for removal rather than seven."

2. Sec. 5.11 – At the end of this sentence add “, recognizing that each of the fire districts appoints its own Fire Marshal.”
3. Sec. 5.12 – Add Sec. 5.12 to read “The Personnel Appeals Board has been eliminated.”
- c. Chapter VI – The Town Manager
 1. Sec. 6.4 – Change this sentence to read “The description of the Conservation Commission will be covered by the publication authorizing Boards and Commissions referenced in Sec. 5.3 thru 5.10 above.”
- d. Chapter VIII – Finance and Taxation
 1. Sec. 8.5 – Insert a comma after the word “land”.
- e. Significant Additions or Consideration
 1. At the end of item 1 add the words “in Chapter VI.”

Enclosure (3) – Listing of Items Requiring Council Action

- a. Library Board
 1. In the third sentence change the words “Bill Library” to read “Bill Memorial Library”.
 2. In the fifth sentence change the words “Parks and Recreation Board” to read “Parks and Recreation Commission”.
- b. Town Departmental Structure
 1. In the first sentence change the word “discussion” to read “the descriptions”.
 2. After the words “super-majority” add “(six votes)”.

Additional changes to the proposed **Charter** (draft dated July 1, 2008)

- a. *Sec 3.7 – Voting districts* – Change the first sentence to read “All officers of the Town who are chosen by election, except RTM representatives, shall be elected at large”.

At the next meeting there will be a Public Hearing and then the Commission will continue with a discussion of comments received during that hearing.

7. ADJOURNMENT

By consensus the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Shirley Dunbar-Rose
Secretary
Approved July ____, 2008