

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

December 5, 2023 Meeting held Remotely on Zoom 6PM

Committee Members Present: David Golden, Chair; Alan Costello, Vice Chair; Robert Zupperoli, Clerk (Zoom), Joseph Hutchinson, Leon Levin, Laurence Pizer, Martha Vautrain, Steve Bolotin (alternate), Michael Hanlon (alternate).

Chair Golden announced that due to the absence this evening of Ms. Cavacco and Mr. Lawlor, both alternates will be participating as full members with voting powers.

Public Comment: None

Discussion – Chapter 2: The Legislative Branch (cont’)

Tonight’s discussion dealt with the Committee of Precinct Chairs (COPC). The Charter Review Committee is being much more specific as to the role, duties, etc. of the COPC than the current Charter. The committee discussed and recommended the requirement that the COPC make at least an annual report of their efforts on the floor of Town Meeting. Next, they added a section requiring the COPC to host a Warrant Articles Review Session before Town Meeting, allowing that this meeting can be done with partners.

Public comment: Pat Adelman, Precinct 5 wanted to be sure that Precinct caucus meetings would not be eliminated, and was told that they would stay.

Discussion – Chapter 2: The Legislative Branch (cont’)

Chair Golden proposed some language regarding subcommittees that “shall” be appointed by the COPC. There followed a lengthy discussion as to whether the list of proposed subcommittees was too long, too short, did not need to be specifically listed, called for too much work from the COPC and so on. Finally, it was decided that volunteers could meet and rework this paragraph. Messrs. Hutchinson, Bolotin and Costello agreed to tackle this issue and report back to the Committee.

Another proposed paragraph allowing the COPC to appoint subcommittees “from time to time” consisting of COPC members, town meeting members, and/or residents of Plymouth to facilitate the oversight and communications required of the COPC as well as review the Town’s bylaws was left intact. Further the Committee agreed that the COPC shall appoint one of its members to serve on the Advisory and Finance Committee, and one to serve on the Charter Review Committee Appointment Committee as needed.

The Committee voted 9 to 0 to make the COPC a separate section of the Charter.

The next meeting will include, for part of the meeting, a joint session with the Select Board to discuss Chapter 3, The Executive Branch.

Specific wording for the above changes may be found in the minutes of the Charter Review Committee when they are published.

Respectfully submitted,
Lyle Lawrence

When the minutes of this meeting have been approved, they will be available at plymouth-ma.gov website. Go to the Government tab, click Agendas and Minutes, scroll down to and click Charter Review Committee, look to the right and click the minutes icon.