

## **Weston COA Governance Committee Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 9:00am by chair Joan Heilbronner. She read the extension of Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law and then took attendance.

**Present:** Sue Ruskin Friend, Joan Heilbronner, Linda Johnson, Tom Nicholson and Mignonne Murray  
**Absent:** Prather Palmer

**Resident Concerns and Comments:** None.

**Minutes of the September 13 Meeting** were approved unanimously.

### **Director's Report**

The Board of Health will be holding 2 vaccine clinics; one for high dose flu vaccine as well a mini-clinics for both types of COVID boosters. In addition the number of available appointments have been increased. The FY 24 budgeting process will be completed by the end of October or beginning of November. Regarding the upcoming MCOA conference, most of the COA staff will be attending for at least one day. Mignonne has put up signs at the COA designating some areas as "Employee Only" in order to both maintain confidentiality and for staff safety. This is because there are groups now active in MA who are videotaping entities such as the COA as part of their focus on First Amendment rights.

### **Budget Report**

No comments today; in future the budget report will be included in the agenda on a quarterly basis.

### **Updates from Strategic Initiative Committee and Proposed Next Steps**

Tom gave a preview of the information he will be presenting at the next Board meeting. The Strategic Initiative Committee is using the AARP age-friendly planning process as a model for their proposal which focuses on making Weston a more livable community. Livability focuses on all ages and the project will require buy-in from most other town departments. Brookline provides an example of a successful livability initiative—when Brookline put out information about the location of all public bathrooms in

the city, the highest users were young mothers with toddlers, not older adults.

### **Review of Governance Committee Charter Draft**

Each committee is to think about whether it should continue or not and if so, what is the purpose of the committee, its responsibilities and its goals for this year including specific objectives. The GC charter provides a template for other committees. Each committee's charter should provide a roadmap for the year.

A vote was taken to accept the Governance Committee Charter as drafted which was unanimously approved with the proviso that the GC may want to make changes over the course of the year once more tangible goals arise out of the livability effort.

### **Recruitment Discussion**

Discussion included the concept that 4 years is a long term of service and that it may be too long, creating problems with succession. 8 years may also be too long. Candidates for the Board should be interested in leadership and ideally have had experience as a leader. There is also a need for both candidates with strategic planning expertise and business experience. Wayne feels that the terms of service for Chair and Vice Chair should be more than one year given the learning curve for these positions. Both Betsey and Bob will coming off the Board this year.

### **Discuss Proposed Cancellation of December Meeting**

A vote was taken to cancel the December meeting which was unanimously approved.

### **Project Updates**

No updates were noted.

### **Other Business**

No other business was noted.

### **Next meeting on November 8, 2022 at 9am**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 am

*Respectfully submitted by Sue Ruskin Friend 10/30/22*