

Town of Brookline
Advisory Committee Minutes

Sean Lynn-Jones, Chair

Date: July 6, 2016

Present: Clifford M. Brown, Carol Caro, Lea Cohen, Dennis Doughty, Harry Friedman, Janet Gelbart, David-Marc Goldstein, Neil Gordon, Angela Hyatt, Alisa G. Jonas, Janice S. Kahn, Steven Kanes, Bobbie Knable, David Lescohier, Fred Levitan, Pamela Lodish, Shaari S. Mittel, Mariah Nobrega, Stanley L. Spiegel

Absent: Lee L. Selwyn, Kelly A. Hardebeck, Carla Benka, Sytske Humphrey, John Doggett, Charles Swartz, Robert Liao, Christine Westphal, Amy Hummell, Michael Sandman

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

1. AGENDA ITEM: FY 2017 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Present: TMM Moderator, Sandy Gadsby

New members and re-appointed members should see Pat Ward or anyone in the Town Clerk's office to be sworn in prior to the next Advisory Committee Meeting sometime late August or early September.

Carla Benka
Clifford M. Brown
Carol B. Caro
Lea Cohen
John Doggett
Dennis L. Doughty
Harry K. Friedman
Janet Gelbart
David-Marc Goldstein
Neil R. Gordon
Kelly A. Hardebeck
Amy F. Hummel
Sytske Humphrey
Angela Hyatt
Alisa G. Jonas
Janice S. Kahn
Steven Kanes
Bobbie M. Knable
David C. Lescohier
Fred Levitan
Robert Liao
Pamela Lodish
Sean Lynn-Jones
Shaari S. Mittel
Mariah C. Nobrega
Michael Sandman
Lee L. Selwyn
Stanley L. Spiegel
Charles Swartz
Christine Westphal

The Moderator noted that we have a full committee w/statutory maximum of 30 members. All 16 precincts are represented; there are 5 at large members, 15 women, and 15 men.

He reviewed the policy related to absences to committee meetings. He is required to relieve someone of their duty with more than 7 absences, which he interprets liberally in the sense that if you have commitments other than AC that prevent your attendance, let chair or vice-chair know about them in advance; those absences are not counted against you. He differentiates excused and unexcused absences (not requested or notified in advance by contacting the chair or vice chair of the committee – professional conflicts principally but also illness or physical difficulty).

The Moderator will circulate a copy of this policy via email to Advisory Committee Members.

The Moderator read a letter by a past Chair of the AC as a reminder to the current members of the proper demeanor and its relationship to those who appear before it.

He noted he is proud of this groups' performance over the past fiscal year. Reports to TM and in proceedings as they have been conducted, the AC has done as charged.

Moderator: Requested nominations for Chair of AC for 2017

Nomination: Sean Lynn-Jones.

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to nominate Sean Lynn-Jones as Chair of the AC.

By a **VOTE** of 15 in favor, none opposed and 1 abstention, the Advisory Committee approved the election of Sean Lynn-Jones as Chair of the AC.

Chair: Requesting nominations for Vice-Chair of AC for 2017:

Nomination: Carla Benka

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to nominate Carla Benka as Vice-Chair of AC.

By a **VOTE** of 19 in favor, 0 opposed and no abstentions, the Advisory Committee approved the election of Carla Benka vice-chair of the AC.

Chair: Requesting nominations for Secretary of AC for 2017:

Nomination: Lisa Portscher

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to nominate Lisa Portscher as Secretary of the AC.

By a **VOTE** of 19 in favor, 0 opposed with no abstentions the Advisory Committee approved the election of Lisa Portscher Secretary of AC.

Other Comments: Sean noted that there will be an earlier deadline for Combined Reports.

He urged members to speak for the Advisory Committee when speaking at Town Meeting to give a sense of the Committee's position as a whole.

2. AGENDA ITEM: FY15: APPROPRIATION TRANSFER REQUESTS

Also Present: Acting Fire Chief Robert J. Ward and Public Safety Business Manager, Anthony Ansaldi

The BFD was projecting a \$40K deficit. The Fire Department will not need a reserve fund transfer but we will still need the Advisory Committee to approve the \$35,000 appropriation transfers to balance the budget. Once approved, the Fire Department will end the year with surplus of approximately \$3,500 in the Personnel Budget.

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to approve \$35,000 appropriation transfers within the Fire Department.

By a **VOTE** of 19 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions, the Advisory Committee voted to approve the appropriation transfers.

Melissa Goff, Deputy Town Administrator, gave an update on the State budget (School had a cut in their kindergarten grant) and an update on the firefighter's contract (there is a tentative agreement that will be going in front of the Board of Selectmen next week).

Upon a **MOTION** made and seconded to adjourn, and voted unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Documents Presented: Request for Appropriation Transfer, Fire Department