**TOWN OF HARWICH**

**By-Laws/Charter Review Committee**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Town Hall Library**

**Tuesday, April 23, 2019 @ 6:30 pm**

In attendance: Committee Members Sandra Hall (Chairman), Anita Doucette, Tina Games, Deborah Sementa, Carol Thayer.

Board of Selectmen liaison Don Howell.

**1.Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order @ 6:30 pm.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the February 19, 2019 & March 19, 2019 meetings were voted on and approved.

**3. Old Business**

A list of the following Citizens petitions articles for charter revisions and possible votes at the May Annual Town Meeting was brought before the By-Laws/Charter Review Committee for discussion:

* Prohibit Town from procurement and dispensing plastic water containers;
* Ban use of single use straws;
* Selectmen’s public record of votes (Motion was made by Anita Doucette and seconded by Tina Games that if this issue is asked on Town Meeting floor that the By-Laws/Charter Review Committee supports the article. The Committee vote was unanimous in favor of support.);
* Change name of Selectmen to “Select Board”;
* Rescind 2016 Town Meeting Article 57 – re: Pet Burial Ground

**4. New Business**

The Committee reviewed and discussed possible votes of the following articles for the May Annual Town Meeting. These are Selectmen’s referral of By-Law/Charter Committee articles (most are Zoning By-laws):

* Single-family dwelling with accessory apartment.
* Freestanding portable signs.
* Retaining walls for septic systems.
* Special provisions for lifting existing structure to new and appropriate elevations.
* Charter amendment – Change from Water Commission to Water/Wastewater Commission.
* Amendments to Harwich Home Rule Charter – Capital Outlay Plan.
* Amendments to Ex-Officio Members – Clarify terms of office.

Chairman Sandy Hall will address if needed at Town Meeting.

**5. Set next meeting date**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 6 @ 6:00pm (prior to Town Meeting) and June 4 @ 6:30pm.

**6. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Sementa

Recording Secretary