BY-LAW CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 12, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m.

Small Hearing Room, Town Hall, 732 Main Street, Harwich, MA 02645

Committee members present: Linda Cebula, Noreen Donahue, Sandy Hall, Deborah Sementa. Absent: Anita Doucette.

1. Call to Order - Meeting called to order by Chair Cebula at 5:04 p.m. This meeting is being recorded.
2. Public Comments - None.
3. Approval of minutes for February 20, 2024 (regular meeting) and March 4, 2024 (joint meeting with Select Board). Motion to approve both meeting minutes by Hall, seconded by Donahue. Accepted 4-0.
4. Continuing Business
5. Update on meeting with Select Board held March 4, 2024 - Chair Cebula stated there was good discussion and it was a productive meeting between the Bylaw/Charter Review Committee (BLCR) and the Select Board (SB). Several recommended revisions to the Charter and Bylaws were agreed to be included on the warrant; in particular, language change from selectmen to select board is being considered for this May’s Annual Town Meeting.

5. New Business

 a. Review of Charter Chapter 6 (Town Clerk, Library Trustees, Housing Authority §§ 4 7 8, respectively).

In Anita’s absence, Chair Cebula reviewed recommended revisions to §4, §7, and §8. Revisions were

minor; however, it was suggested that each of these departments be invited for future meetings to

discuss these proposed recommendations.

1. Possible review of Bylaw/Charter proposals for May 2024 town meeting – Chair Cebula has not received any response from the town administrator. There was no discussion.

1. Other Business
2. Due to the Water/Wastewater department influx, review of Chapter 6 (Water/Wastewater) section will be put on hold at this time and may be considered for review next year. Sandy Hall will present recommendations to Chapter 6 (General, Vacancies Moderator §§ 1 2 3, respectively) at our next meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Donahue, second by Sementa. Meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m. Due to the Special Election scheduled for April 9, the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m.

Deborah Sementa,

Recording Secretary