

**Norwell Board of Selectmen
Open Meeting Minutes
10/24/18**

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK
2018 DEC -6 PM 2:46
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Present: Ellen Allen, Jason Brown, Alison Demong, Joe Rull, Peter Morin

Open Session - Conference Room, BOS Office

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ellen Allen at 7:05pm.

Approval of Minutes

Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Joe Rull, to approve the meeting minutes of the 10/3/18 and 10/10/18 Open and Executive Sessions. Unanimously voted

Approval of MOU with Harbor Media

Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Joe Rull, to approve the Harbor Media memo of understanding (MOU). Unanimously voted

Ms. Allen read aloud the draft of her letter to Secretary Jay Ash, head of Housing and Economic Development for the state, inviting him to meet with the BOS and the Community Housing Trust to discuss Affordable Housing strategy in the Town.

Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Joe Rull, to approve and send Ellen Allen's letter to Secretary Ash. Unanimously voted

Other Matters before the Board

All discussed strategy to increase affordable and workforce housing and housing diversity in a way that benefits both the Town and its residents.

Mr. Rull reported that Attorney Walter Sullivan contacted him about a proposal to build 60 units of assisted living on Steve Marsh's property on High Street. All agreed that assisted living is usually not combined with Affordable Housing, but the board will invite Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Marsh to a meeting to discuss their proposal. Discussion ensued about Warrant Article placement to get people interested in this project.

Mr. Morin will contact Mike Duran, Chair of Mass Housing, to discuss housing in general, including the MAPC report and maybe the prospect of acquiring St. Helen's. An option could be to invite Mr. Duran to the same meeting as Secretary Ash, with a date to be determined.

The board discussed the proposed Hanover Mall rehab, and its potential effect on the South Street wells. Ms. Allen will follow up with Peter Dillon. Mr. Morin spoke to Frank Marinelli, the lawyer for Hanover Properties, noting that he would be happy to come to a BOS meeting to discuss the mall plans and impact on the Town. As a first step, some of the board members will meet with him at 1pm on November 9th.

At this time the board met in Executive Session. Minutes are recorded separately.

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Open Session, Reconvened at 7:35pm after Executive Session in the Town Hall Gym

Ms. Allen opened the meeting. All rose to recite the pledge of allegiance.

*Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Jason Brown, to approve the agenda as written.
Unanimously voted*

Approval of Agenda

*Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the agenda as written.
Unanimously voted*

Citizen Comments – None

Selectmen's Reports and Announcements

Ms. Allen announced that the board had approved and signed the Memorandum of Understanding with Harbor Media for enhanced media services as discussed at the BOS meeting on 10/17/18.

The BOS will meet with the Norwell Chamber of Commerce and local businesses sometime in mid-November regarding the reworking of the current sign by-law. Mr. Morin talked to KP Law (who works for some of the surrounding towns), who has shared several iterations of sample framework for the bylaw.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Morin reported that a letter was sent to the State Auditor to inquire about their services to review the Town's budget and finances.

No Place For Hate Committee

Committee Members Present; Betsy Hilsinger, Don Galvin, Victor Posada, and Jennifer Greenberg

Committee Update – Ms. Hilsinger reported that the No Place For Hate name is now trademarked and the program is no longer in place in local communities. The committee was obligated to choose a new name in September. They are now officially known as the All Are Welcome committee. The committee wrote a new mission statement, which will be on record in the BOS office and posted on the committee webpage on the Town website.

The board reviewed and is in support of the new mission statement.

Ms. Hilsinger reported that each committee member took a section of the Town to do an informal needs assessment. The various groups interviewed gave positive feedback about the idea that this committee is here to help residents deal with prejudice and adversity. Committee Chair Molly McKittrick has met with the staff of the Norwell Mariner a few times with the goal of setting up a regular column. The UCC has made good progress with diversity education. The schools have excellent anti-bullying programs in place. The hope is that a regular newspaper column will circulate information to a wider audience. The committee may set up some fundraising activities to help spread the word. Mr. Morin will give them a contact to help set up a Facebook page. The committee may also have a booth activity at Summerfest. Assistant Principal Greenberg added that the committee would like to become a central resource. She highlighted other events that brought students and senior citizens together, and reported on upcoming programs available for students. The committee will also interact with the Norwell Cares event.

Ms. Allen asked for a motion from the board to rename the committee.

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the name change from the No Place For Hate Committee to the All Are Welcome Committee. Unanimously voted

Discussion ensued about organizing a Friends of the All Are Welcome Committee (AAWC) to begin fundraising activity. Ms. Allen suggested that they contact the Norwell Public Library, Police Department and Council on Aging for pointers about setting this up a 501(c)3 organization, which is allowed to solicit funding as long as the non-profit application has been filed.

The board cautioned that a Facebook page should be monitored so as not to violate open meeting law. Ms. Allen will meet with Mr. Morin about a Town-wide social media policy. All explained the reasoning and need for guidelines. AAWC members confirmed that no interaction or forum is planned; the site will be information posts only. The BOS added that the same guidelines should apply to the newspaper column; if it is only announcing upcoming events and awareness information that is fine. Ms. Allen and Mr. Morin will review information before it is posted. The board gave this committee kudos for its new name and purpose, adding that it will be a meaningful addition to the list of Town resources.

Ms. Greenberg announced that one of the student committee members will be graduating in June, so the school will ID another student to participate.

BOS approval – Release of Pedestrian Enhancement Funds

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the release of 20K of Pedestrian Enhancement funds from the Planning Board to the Complete Streets Committee in order to underwrite a design for the section of sidewalk from the Middle School/Town Hall to Lincoln Street. Unanimously voted

Appointment of Roy Bjorlin to the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Brown noted that ZBA Chair Lois Barbour voiced concern about a conflict of interest if a resident serves on two separate boards. All discussed committee members who serve on multiple boards with no issues. Mr. Morin added that he does not share any of these concerns.

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to accept with regret Stacy Minihane's resignation from the Conservation Commission. Unanimously voted

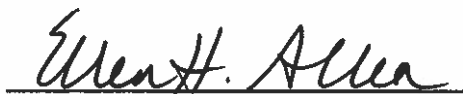
Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to appoint Roy Bjorlin to the Conservation Commission for a term ending 6/30/21. Unanimously voted

FUTURE Meeting agendas

Mr. Rull will be absent from the 11/14/18 BOS meeting.

Adjournment

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to adjourn at 8:17pm. Unanimously voted



Ellen Allen, Chair