

**Norwell Board of Selectmen  
Open Meeting Minutes  
4/24/19**

TOWN OF NORWELL  
TOWN CLERK  
2019 MAY 23 AM 9:26

**Present:** Ellen Allen, Gregg McBride, Jason Brown, Joe Rull, Peter Morin

**Ellen Allen called the meeting to order at 7:00pm in the Selectmen's Conference Room**

The minutes of March 6, 20 & 27 were unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Allen shared that the Garden Club is trying to schedule use of the Osborn Room starting next Fall for one Thursday each month from 12-2. They need a new space because the temporary library doesn't have a meeting room. The Town Clerk told them that the Selectmen need to approve this. Mr. Morin said he wants displaced groups to use the Cushing Center (CC). It was noted that the CC charges fees for use, as well as the cost of the custodian; groups who have used the Library in the past have not needed to pay for these. Mr. McBride and Mr. Morin will follow-up with the CC Directors. The Board agreed that the Garden Club may use the Osborn Room, which Ms. Allen will communicate to them and the Town Clerk.

An Eagle Scout is coordinating with Glenn Ferguson to add a handicapped accessible ramp at the Town Common for his Eagle Project. The Board expressed support.

**Open Session at 7:30pm, Osborn Room**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ellen Allen at 7:30pm. She reminded all that the meeting is televised and recorded. All rose to recite the pledge of allegiance.

**Approval of agenda, unanimously voted**

*Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, to approve the agenda with following change of order, Item 4c will be first. Unanimously voted*

**Citizen Comments – None**

**Town Administrator Report - None**

**Selectmen Announcements**

Jason Brown, Electronic Voting Committee (EVC) member, announced that they will conduct a pilot at Town meeting to test electronic voting. All voters will use smart phones or tablets to vote on 9 Articles as part of the pilot. Please visit [norwell.voatz.com](http://norwell.voatz.com) to learn more and download the smart phone app. A tablet will be provided at no cost to residents if a smart phone is not available. Please note that NO personal ID information is required when you are installing the smart phone app. For any questions call the Town Clerk's office at 781-659-8072. There is also a Q & A format under Town News on the website. There will be two demos at the COA on Monday, 4/29/19 and Tuesday, 4/30/19. See the COA webpage for details.

Gregg McBride announced that Norwell Spotlight TV has requested residents to complete the questionnaire about cable TV usage on their Facebook page. ([facebook@norwellspotlighttv](https://www.facebook.com/norwellspotlighttv)). This survey will provide data to help them determine a direction to move forward with current and future programming and changes. Their website is [norwellspotlighttv.com](http://norwellspotlighttv.com).

Ellen Allen announced the annual Trash Bash day will be held on Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>, rain date May 5<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am. Come to Town Hall for coffee, donuts, gloves and trash bags. For more information, call 781-659-2965.

## Town Administrator Report- None

### Discussion/Action Items

#### 4c. BOS discussion and approval – Friends of COA memorial bench on Town Common

Ms. Allen gave a brief summary of Dorothy Dixon's long and valuable service record, both serving our country in the armed forces and also as a long-time resident and volunteer in the Town, State and Veterans Services. She was Citizen of the Year in 1997. The memorial mass for Ms. Dixon will be May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am at St. Helen's.

Pat Butler, President of the Friends of the COA (FOCOA), and Caroline LeCroix were present to give a short summary of the FOCO's proposal to honor Ms. Dixon's memory and veteran status with a granite bench on the Town Common. Ms. La Croix noted that Ms. Dixon started the COA in the Town. The bench will have a small plaque in her honor. All talked about the placement of the bench on the common, which will be sited by Glenn Ferguson. The board is in favor of this thoughtful gesture in memory of Ms. Dixon and her significant contributions to the Town.

*Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, to approve the granite bench in memory of Dorothy Dixon, to be placed by the Highway Surveyor in an appropriate location on the Town Common. Unanimously voted*

The board thanked Ms. Butler and Ms. La Croix for coming in.

#### Road Race Application – Ride for Habitat, September 14, 2019

Ms. Allen noted that this is the 13<sup>th</sup> year of South Shore Habitat for Humanity's ride in the Town. It winds through Norwell in various locations, and will be held on 9/14/19, from 9am-11:30am. The Police Department would like contact information for race day. All are in support of this race.

*Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, to approve the race application for South Shore Habitat for Humanity's Ride for Habitat on 9/14/19, with conditions as noted by the Police Department. Unanimously voted*

Mr. Brown asked about event fees being charged by the Town – are any being collected? Mr. Morin replied that for-profit organizations are charged a fee and all are required to pay for the cost of their police details. Races impacting only a part of the Town are charged a smaller fee. Mr. Brown asked if the Town's expenses were being covered – answer, yes. The event fee has dramatically increased and all applicants were notified a year in advance. The larger for-profit events that are run predominantly in the Town are charged the higher fee. The charity events are charged less.

#### Small Cell Wireless Installations Policy

Ms. Allen announced that the rollout of 5G services is beginning in the country. The FCC has released a wireless preemption order to get these services in place as quickly as possible. Carriers can put them in the public right of way with very little limitation or town approval, effective 4/15/19.

The board reviewed a memo and draft policy from Town Counsel that puts a policy in place for an application process and content. It takes the limited authority of the Town and puts it on paper. Zoning is largely overridden by this FCC ruling and there are no aesthetic limitations. This policy will go on the Warrant for the next Town Meeting to be adopted as a bylaw. It will be better than having no policy in the bylaws and will include information on applications to the BOS, some fees structure, rules for public hearings, time limits, required information, renewal process and the limited regulations (such as no double poles). The board wanted to warn residents that these installations may be unsightly, but communication will be better. Per Mr. McBride, the carriers are rolling out these services in limited numbers and mostly in cities. This adopted policy can also be customized or edited as needed over time.

*Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, that the board adopt the policy for applications for small cell wireless installations as drafted by Town Counsel. Unanimously voted*

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**Future Meetings**

5-1-19 Meeting: Ed Forte update to Town Hall design concepts, Traffic Study Committee speed limit recommendations and follow-up

5-6-19 Town Meeting

5-8-19 No meeting, week of Town Meeting

5-15-19 Last meeting with Mr. McBride

**Adjournment to Executive Session**

*Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:58pm, not returning to Open Session, to discuss the purchase of real property and potential litigation. To discuss these topics in Open Session would be detrimental to the negotiating position of the Town. Unanimously voted*

*Ms. Allen polled the board; Mr. McBride voting yes, Mr. Brown voting yes, Mr. Rull voting yes and Ms. Allen voting yes*

*Ellen H. Allen*

**Ellen Allen, Chair**