

## CARLISLE GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE

Thursday, August 25, 2022

Remote Meeting – Teleconference

### MINUTES

Submitted by: Vanessa Moroney

Approved on: 9/15/2022

The Carlisle Governance Task Force met on Thursday, August 25, 2022. The meeting took place by Zoom video conferencing and was recorded. The meeting was scheduled to begin at 7:00pm. Task Force members present: Brian Cruise, Kyle Dalbec, Vanessa Moroney and Rebekah Vieira. Absent: Paul Anagnostopoulos. Kate Reid, Select Board member, was in attendance, as well as Sam Cochrane, reporting for The Mosquito.

1. Vieira called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.
2. Approval of Minutes
  - a. 8/22/22: Approved. **MOTION:** Dalbec moved to approve the minutes of 8/22/22. **SECOND:** Cruise. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Cruise, yes; Dalbec, yes; Moroney, yes; Vieira, yes. (Anagnostopoulos not present). Dalbec will submit to the Town Clerk.
3. Update on joint work with FinCom
  - a. Vieira noted that FinCom will be joining the Select Board at its meeting on 8/29. There has been no substantive response from the meeting with Vieira and Cruise and no comments on the bylaw draft. The deadline for FinCom to provide feedback was today, 8/25/22.
4. Discussion regarding upcoming 8/29/22 SB meeting with FinCom
  - a. Based largely on the lack of any response from FinCom which would have allowed the Task Force to proceed with its work and prepare final bylaw drafts for the SB, the Task Force discussed what its options are at this point.
  - b. Cruise noted that it isn't practical for the Task Force to propose warrant articles. It's not the job of the Task Force to finalize language as a volunteer committee. The primary purpose of the Task Force is to point out problems and possible solutions. Nearly all that is being proposed by the Task Force pertains to the authority of the Town Administrator. The new TA, in concert with the SB and Town Counsel, should work together to determine appropriate bylaw language. The Task Force should not be involved in political arguments. These important bylaws should not be rushed in order to make the Special Town Meeting this fall.

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The crafting of final bylaw language really should be completed by Town Counsel.

- c. Vieira commented on her concerns that it seems more political maneuverings are expected. The Task Force should remain independent and not be asked to get involved in the politics. Vieira emphasized that it is possible for the Task Force to place items on the warrant because any citizen can; this option should be available to any future task force as well.
  - d. Dalbec concurred with the general consensus thus far and indicated that the Task Force has taken its work as far as its resources and time have allowed.
  - e. Moroney agreed with all previous comments and opinions of Cruise, Vieira, and Dalbec.
  - f. No vote was taken, but consensus was reached to not put any warrant articles forward to the Select Board. Vieira will update the Select Board on this decision by the Task Force at the 8/29 SB meeting.
  - g. The Task Force also agreed to push to complete its final report by 9/13/22 so that the SB can choose, if they wish, to include any of the articles in the warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held on 10/17/22. It was also agreed that should the SB decide to move any articles, it should be made clear that the articles are not from the Task Force; any article being moved would be moved by the SB.
  - h. Vieira reported that she had sent the most up to date version of bylaw drafts to SB Chair Arnold prior to tonight's meeting.
5. Ongoing work
- a. Future Governance Task Force committees
    - i. Dalbec suggested that when future Governance Task Forces are assembled, that perhaps one member should be someone who had served on the previous Governance Task Force in order to help both maintain continuity and provide context.
    - ii. Reid raised the point that future Governance Task Forces should have at least some access to staff to help with basic administrative duties.
    - iii. Moroney suggested that it might be possible to find an intern or a graduate student from the Kennedy School of Government who could

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provide professional insight and would be able to dedicate significant hours to complete critical work.

- b. Working documents
  - i. 8/25/22 for discussion folder in SharePoint: the 3 files which were sent to Barney Arnold as drafts: Budget Warrant Article, Town Administrator Warrant Article, Town Clerk Warrant Article. Vieira asked Task Force members to please review each of these drafts prior to attending the SB meeting on 8/29.
  - ii. Cruise suggested the Task Force supply the SB with possibly more article versions, for example some item versions make reference to the school, others don't, etc.
  - iii. Cruise uploaded more files to this discussion folder: Further Research Recommendations V.1 – old list of what CGTF didn't do, General Administrative Recommendations V.1 – old unfinished business section, Land-use Recommendations V.4
  - iv. The Task Force reviewed changes to all but the Land-use Recommendations file. Cruise took copious notes on the rewrite and will provide new drafts to review.
  - v. Cruise volunteered to draft a new section about process issues.
  
- 6. Adjourn
  - a. **MOTION:** Moroney moved to adjourn at 9:14pm. **SECOND:** Dalbec. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Cruise, yes; Dalbec, yes; Moroney, yes; Vieira, yes. (Anagnostopoulos not present).