

May 24, 2021

To the Editor:

I'm writing to extend an early invitation to all Carlisle registered voters – especially those who are NOT grizzled veterans of our town's volunteer government – to consider serving on the Town Governance Task Force that will be formed if Article 17 passes at the June 6 Annual Town Meeting.

Your service could positively affect Carlisle for generations.

Article 17 proposes establishment of a task force “charged with studying the form, organization and practices of Town government and making recommendations to improve the efficacy, efficiency, responsiveness, and transparent functioning thereof.” The Task Force would be mandated to produce a report, including proposed warrant articles, for the 2022 Town Meeting.

If the Article passes in current form and I am re-elected, it will be my responsibility as Town Moderator to appoint Task Force Members. I intend to move quickly to appoint members, so that the group can start work this summer.

It has been over 25 years since Carlisle has systemically examined how it runs itself. A lot has changed. This Task Force will be expected to bring fresh thinking to some old problems and creatively anticipate future challenges. To assemble an effective team, here's what I will be looking for in prospective appointees.

- **Diversity along multiple dimensions.** Age, gender, ethnicity, experience, *etc.* A healthy mix of perspectives leads to better problem-solving. Municipal government experience is nice, but less important than your ability to translate whatever experiences you've have to the task at hand.
- **Not-too-deep experience in Carlisle government.** While we'll need a few “old hands” who understand the history and ins-and-outs, I hope to appoint individuals who will bring fresh and provocative thinking.
- **Open ears, open mind.** Task Force members will need to be committed to learning from each other, town elected and appointed officials, town employees, and residents about challenges and potential solutions. They will need to be willing and able to research best practices from other towns, and then think creatively how such practices could be adapted here.
- **A commitment to collaboration.**

You may apply by submitting a letter summarizing your interest and relevant experience to moderator@carlislema.gov.



Wayne H. Davis
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Town Moderator