

**Hopkinton Charter Commission meeting, July 14, 2004**

Meeting called to order 7:04 p.m.. Present Eldridge, chairman; McRobert, vicechairman; Karlin, clerk; Clark, Herlihy, Irvin, Pratt, Carver, Daugherty

Motion to revive the website carried unanimously

Discussion that a cable show may help and consider call-in line for more input.

Motion to approve minutes June 9<sup>th</sup> approved unanimously

Motion to approve minutes of 6/30/04 approved unanimously

Motion to finish charter for the May 2005 election was approved unanimously. Note that this implies completion by March for the election

Phone discussion with Marilyn Contreas suggests that we get more department head input. Send emissaries to dept heads, may use the dept head meetings as forum. Consistent set of questions given to dept heads.

Motion to e-mail questions in advance of next meeting and to collate for the next agenda passed unanimously.

Agenda for the next meeting: developing a list of questions and a plan for interviewing dept. heads, boards and committees

Motion to make questions available at next dept head meeting, 10 a.m. on first Wednesday of the month. (Daugherty and Irvin to represent charter commission) Passed unanimously.

Review of commentaries and public hearing.

Comment from Dr Bobeck: Keep town moderator and town clerk elected. I would like less power at the top. No selectmen should be appointed to position of administrator.

Herlihy: preponderance of the commentary has supported open town meeting. Why not focus only on charters of towns with open meetings. Comment that good input could be excluded by not reviewing all charters. 7 to 1 against Herlihy's recommendation.

Need to assure that our charter conforms to current bylaw.

Motion to adjourn 8:55 p.m.