

Hopkinton Charter Commission  
Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2004

Present Eldridge, Carver, Pratt, Herlihy, Clark, Karlin Absent Irvin, Daugherty,  
McRobert,

Motion to approve minutes of 11/3/04

Finalized questions for other charter commissioners. First we discussed who to invite: Guy Fleurette from Bellingham, Susan Turner from Ashland, Debbie LaPlaca from Dudley. We agreed to devote the Dec. 1 meeting to questioning other commissioners. We discussed possible questions: Questions about progress. What changes did they recommend? When to get public input and how to build support? What things worked best. Decided to devote the whole meeting to discussion.

We discussed recall petition language. We decided to create a proposal before discussing whether we wanted a recall provision. We felt that if we had such a provision it should not be easy.

Number of signatures for recall: To initiate a petition (sign the affidavit) we suggest 100 signatures with no more than 50 from any precinct. We suggest that 15% of registered voters need to sign the petition to force a vote. (25% is too high. 4 of 5 towns set recall quantum at majority of those voting). Any officer with more than 6 months remaining may be subject of a recall. No comment on time before recall or repeat recall. An officer whose recall is sought may run in the recall election. 45 days to gather petition.

Mary Pratt agreed to obtain an outline of the town's financial process from Executive Secretary Ted Kozak for next meeting.

Reviewed current organizational structure, appointed and elected positions. Will discuss possible consolidation of positions. Commissioners agreed to talk to various appointed and elected officials to review possible consolidation. Assignments given to discuss minor positions (Tom Irvin, constables; Nancy Clark, Historic Commission, Historical District Commission; Gary Daugherty, cutter of wires; Bruce Karlin, field driver, fence viewer; Marie Eldridge, plumbing, wiring, gas inspectors).

No questions from the public.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.