

**TMMA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2010**

Marsha Baker, TMMA Chair, called the TMMA Executive Committee Meeting to order at approximately 7:30 p.m. A quorum was present (e.g., at least 9 members, representing 5 separate Precincts). On this date, 24TMMA Members were present.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Precinct #</u>
Joe Pato, Chair	2
Rita Goldberg, Vice Chair	2
Barry Orenstein, TMMA Vice Chair	2
Michelle Goddard, Chair and TMMA Treasurer	3
Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti, TMMA Clerk	5
Andy Friedlich, Chair	5
Lisa Smith, Clerk	5
Eddie Sandy, Chair	6
Alan Lazarus, Vice Chair	6
Marsha Baker, TMMA Chair	7
Pat Costello, Chair	7
Mary Burnell, Clerk	7
Diane Biglow, Chair	8
Robert Avallone, Vice Chair	8
Margaret Enders, Clerk	8
Lisah Rhodes, Chair	9
Vicki Blier, TMMA List Moderator	9
Lisah Rhodes, Chair	9

Other meeting attendees included Selectman Hank Manz, John Bartenstein, Precinct 1, Ephraim Weiss and Sam Silverman, Precinct 5, David Kanter, Precinct 7 and Margaret Coppe, School Committee Liaison, Precinct 9.

Marsha told the attendees that some of the items on the Agenda will be taken out of order so that TMMA can accommodate its guest speakers.

Marsha asked Selectman Hank Manz to talk about possible Articles that Town Meeting Members may see in the Town Warrant during Spring Town Meeting. Selectman Manz gave a general overview of topics the Board of Selectman have recently discussed including CPC and CPA Articles (e.g., Center playfields - Phase 2, Vinebrook Village drainage, the White House, the Battle Green, the Police Station upgrade, Cary Hall bathroom upgrades, etc.), an EMS program improvement request, a possible Tax Deferral Article and several citizen Articles.

After Selectman Manz's presentation, a general discussion ensued. At the conclusion of the discussion, Marsha thanked Selectman Manz for his presentation.

Proposed Changes to TM's Notice of Reconsideration:

Marsha asked Ephraim Weiss and David Kanter to give their presentation regarding the proposed Citizen Warrant Article to amend certain sections of the Code of Lexington regarding the reopening and reconsideration procedures after an Article has been deemed to be closed by action of Town Meeting (i.e., Motions and order of business and Reconsideration). During their presentation, Ephraim and David talked about the proposed Code changes that would (i) clarify the currently ambiguous language so as to affirm the current practice of Town Meeting; (ii) provide a means by which to eliminate the current need for the routine service of Notices of Reconsideration on all budget and housekeeping related Motions; and

(iii) retain the purpose of “reopening” an Article in the section of the Code which prescribes Reconsideration procedure.

Ephraim and David also said they spoke with former Town Moderator Marg Battin and current Town Moderator Deborah Brown about regarding these proposed changes. They also said that if the Committee approves these recommendations, they will present the recommendations to Town Counsel for review before going to the Board of Selectmen.

A general discussion ensued. At the end of the discussion, the following Motion was moved:

“That we support the principal of reopening and amending the Notice of Reconsideration language in the By-Laws.”

Upon Motion made and seconded, the Motion passed unanimously.

Spring Town Meeting-Warrant Dates:

Marsha gave a list of dates regarding Spring Town Meeting. She said important dates in January 2011 include the closing date of the Town Warrant on January 3, 2011 and the presentation of the Moderator’s Task Force Recommendations at the January 12, 2011 TMMA’s Executive Committee Meeting.

She said important dates for February include the assignment of TMMA Warrant Articles and information write-ups that will be assigned on February 9, 2011 (or earlier as they come in) and the TMMA edit session on February 26, 2011.

Marsha said important dates in March include the LWVL Candidates’ night scheduled for March 2, 2011, the Town election on March 7, 2011, and the TMMA Article information sessions on March 9, 2011, March 10, 2011 and March 16, 2011. She also said that if a bus tour is scheduled, it will happen on March 13, 2011. Marsha said TMMA’s Annual Meeting will be held on March 16, 2011 and that Spring Town Meeting begins March 21, 2011.

She also briefly discussed the Cary Hall meeting room location logistics that will occur because of the Town Hall renovations scheduled to start in the Spring. Margaret Coppe said School Superintendent Paul Ash has already said that the High School is absolutely available for use during this time. One member suggested Cary Library as an alternate site too.

TMMA Clerk’s Report:

Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti, TMMA Clerk, presented the draft October 13, 2010 Executive Committee Minutes that she previously distributed for approval. An edit was received from the floor and Nancy C-R agreed to make the edit. Upon Motion made and seconded, the Clerk’s Minutes were approved. The Motion carried unanimously.

TMMA Treasurer’s Report:

Michelle Goddard, TMMA Treasurer, presented the Treasurer’s Report. She reported that there was one disbursement made in the amount of \$236.00 for costs associated with the Warrant Information Book for the November Special Town meeting and that the current balance is \$1,778.77. Upon Motion made and seconded, the Treasurer’s report was accepted. The Motion carried unanimously.

TMMA By-Laws Review Committee:

Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti and fellow Committee Member Robert Avallone presented the Committee’s proposed recommendations to the current By-Laws. She said the recommendations were compiled from information the Committee gathered after holding three meetings with former and current TMMA Nominating Committee Members and then she and Robert discussed the recommendations including sending out a TMMA Officer “interest” e-mail to all Town Meeting Members, establishing suitable time-lines regarding the announcement of the TMMA Nominating Committee Members and the timing of the

announcement of its proposed Executive Officer Slate after the Town's election and before TMMA's Annual Meeting.

A general discussion ensued. After the discussion, Marsha said she would send out an "interest" e-mail via the list inviting Town Meeting Members to volunteer for either a position on the Nominating Committee or to express interest in a TMMA Executive Officer slot. She also asked Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti to talk to John Bartenstein regarding the proposed By-Law language changes because he has prior experience updating TMMA's By-Laws.

School Committee Update:

Marsha asked Margaret Coppe, the School Committee's Liaison to TMMA, to give an update re: Estabrook School. Margaret gave an update regarding Estabrook School and also talked about other projects that the School Committee has voted unanimously to support including expanding the scope of the air quality renovation projects at the Bridge and Bowman Schools, the emergency Statement of Interest ("SOI") application that was submitted to MSBA as well as the generous donation of computer equipment Joe Pato recently made to the schools.

Vote Recording Committee:

Joe Pato presented his report regarding the ballot vote totals for November's Special Town Meeting and said that the returned ballots will be posted on the website within the next two days. He said that for November's Special Town Meeting, 129 ballots out of 169 were returned for an overall return rate of 77%.

A general discussion ensued regarding vote recordation and ballot returns received from both the Annual Town Meeting (i.e., 111 returned ballots) and the Special Town Meeting in November. At the end of the discussion, Andy F. suggested that the Vote Recording Committee should meet again before the commencement of this year's Annual Town Meeting to discuss the proposed Spring 2011 Town Meeting ballot (i.e., layout and content).

TMMA Business Cards:

Andy Friedlich, Co-Chair of the Community Outreach Committee, distributed a prototype of the TMMA Business Card (showing some minor edits). He also requested TMMA funds for printing costs. Before a vote was taken, a discussion ensued. Some Members said they were in favor of the current business card format and the printing fund expenditure while other Members disagreed or suggested some additional edits.

At the end of the discussion, Marsha said since there was no clear consensus from the Members regarding the business card format and content and/or the fund expenditure for printing, she will talk with Andy and Nancy C-R and reschedule this item for vote at the January 12, 2011 TMMA Executive Committee Meeting.

Old Business/New Business:

There was no old business or new business offered for discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.