

TMMA Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes for September 18, 2019
Hudson Room, Cary Memorial Building

Attendees:	Precinct	Attendees:	Precinct
Ben Moroze*	7 TMMA Chair	David Kaufman*	3
Marc Saint Louis	5 TMMA Vice-Chair	Melanie Thompson*	5
Susan McLeish*	4 TMMA Treasurer	Andy Friedlich*	5
Brielle Meade	8 TMMA Clerk	Vinita Verma*	6
Vicki Blier	9 TMMA List Moderator	Sara Bothwell Allen*	6
Bob Avallone	8 TMMA Webmaster	Yu Wu*	8
Hongbin Luo*	1	Betty Gau*	8
Jonathan Suber*	2	Jim Osten*	8
Matthew Cohen*	2	Hank Manz*	9
Vineeta Kumar*	3	Tom Shiple*	9

*denotes Precinct Officers

The Chair Ben Moroze called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM as quorum was confirmed.

- I. Chair’s Report—Ben informed the group that he and Andy Friedlich attended the Citizens’ Academy (with Deborah Brown) where they presented information about the role of Town Meeting. Ben said they also were able to meet about the “Role of a Town Meeting Member” document, and that a draft of the articles for Special Town Meeting was available. Ben spoke with Deborah Brown who informed him that she is hoping to keep Special Town Meeting to one night. Andy mentioned that Kelly Axtell (Deputy Town Manager) told him that no additional articles will be added to the draft list, but one or two may come off the final warrant. The TMMA information session meeting is scheduled one week in advance of Special Town Meeting, on Tuesday Nov 5th at 7:30PM in the Clark Middle School auditorium.
- II. Clerk’s Report— Brielle Meade submitted the Draft Minutes for the June 12, 2019 meeting for approval. After three corrections, the minutes were unanimously approved.
- III. Treasurer’s Report—Susan McLeish reported that there was no change in the cash balance since the last report. The current balance is \$3,403.06. The Treasurer’s Report (found on page 5 below) was moved, seconded and unanimously accepted.
- IV. Webmaster Report—Bob Avallone reported that the link to the spreadsheet containing TM members’ preferences for electronic or paper copies of TM materials has been posted to the website.
- V. Email List Moderator Report—Vicki Blier discussed the perennial issue of members posting interesting, good information, but information that is not related to policy questions at the local level. She mentioned that while the List accepts posts about meetings on policy questions at the local level, people often stretch the meaning of this, and she pointed out that TMMA does not really want to open the List to discussions of broader issues because the List will get bogged down with irrelevant information. Vicki is thinking about drafting a more clarifying acceptable use policy. Bob Avallone pointed out that TMMA cannot actually prevent people from posting, but if there is a written policy, they can certainly be asked to follow it. Vicki pointed out that part of the benefit of the List is that if TM members follow it, they will get the information they

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need for TM, and TMMA should ensure that relevant information does not get lost amid other information not relevant to TM. Bob suggested that Vicki send occasional emails about the acceptable use policy and how to follow it, as a reminder for people. The current acceptable use policy is available on the TMMA website, and Bob suggested Vicki include a link to it in the occasional emails. Vicki would like to emphasize that the List is for policy issues that are actually actionable at the municipal level.

- VI. Legal Affairs Committee—Andy Friedlich recapped the origin story of the Legal Affairs Committee (see the Meeting Minutes from June 12th for more details). Ben Moroze had emailed a copy of the Committee’s draft report to the Executive Committee for review and Andy suggested the report be accepted as final. David Kaufman moved to accept the Committee’s draft report as final and to dissolve the Legal Affairs Committee. Sara Bothwell Allen and Vicki Blier said they would like to wait to give people more time to read the report. Bob Avallone suggested a vote be postponed for one more month. Ben will resend the document and the Executive Committee will plan to vote on next steps at the next meeting.
- VII. Planning for November 12th Special Town Meeting—
- A. Information Session – the TMMA information session will be Tuesday November 5th at 7:30PM in the Clark Middle School Auditorium. Andy Friedlich reminded Ben Moroze that he should check with Katharine Labrecque about running video and check in with LexMedia. Tom Shiple volunteered to be the table monitor for the information session.
 - B. Bus Tour – Ben Moroze mentioned that TMMA has already visited all the sites that are of interest for this Special Town Meeting. Ben therefore suggested there be no bus tour for this Special Town Meeting. Sara Bothwell Allen mentioned that newer members have not visited 7 Hartwell and wondered about the details of the 7 Hartwell article. It was mentioned that previous arguments for and against the rezoning had to do with traffic issues with entering/exiting to property, and that rezoning could potentially allow other uses that people feel are inappropriate for that spot (e.g. a gas station or mechanic). The Planning Board had suggested the proponents ask for rezoning to match what the rest of Hartwell Ave is currently zoned for. After hearing the overview of the issues, Sara mentioned she did not see a need to visit the site even though she had not visited on a previous tour. Vicki Blier suggested that if there is some opposition to 7 Hartwell, TMMA can encourage the opposing group to “invite” TM members to visit.
 - C. Information Book – Andy Friedlich volunteered to write up the financial articles; he would really like someone to take the lead on compiling the report. David volunteered to summarize the Conservation Land Acquisition and the LED Streetlight articles if someone else would volunteer to put the report together [*Note: there is no longer a Conservation Land Acquisition article on the Warrant; David will not summarize this*]. Bob Avallone volunteered to compile the book and serve as executive editor. Jim Osten volunteered to do the 186 Bedford Street write up, and Jonathan Suber volunteered to do the Automatic Teller Machine article. Sara Bothwell Allen and Vineeta Kumar volunteered to shadow Andy to learn how to run the subcommittee and to do the 7 Hartwell Avenue write up.

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- D. Town Meeting Night – Vicki Blier volunteered to help with the information table. Betty Gau volunteered to help with the seating numbers.
- E. General discussion about possible warrant items – Ben Moroze explained a little more about the 25% Hartwell Avenue design article. Andy Friedlich explained a little about the issue with an ATM in the old Good Feet location in the center of town. Sara Bothwell Allen asked when we would know if any of the articles will be removed; Andy said that Kelly Axtell told him there will be a draft warrant at the end of this week (before September 23rd). Articles can still be pulled after that, but it will be more solidified when the draft warrant comes out.
- VIII. Role of a TMM Meeting Proposal—Vicki Blier gave an overview of the planning and discussion that has occurred so far. She and the proposal team discussed and decided that there will be a moderator/host, but that it should not be the Town Moderator or anyone official. They do have someone who is interested in taking on the role. They decided it should be someplace relaxed like the Depot; Andy Friedlich called Lexington Historical Society to inquire about using the space at no cost. He is still waiting to hear back from LHS. The proposal team needs direction from the Executive Committee for when the event should be held and what the budget will be. The proposal team thinks a dessert potluck (low budget) is appropriate. The meeting consensus seemed to be that this should be held in January. Sara Bothwell Allen wondered if there is an alternative option in case LHS will not be able to provide the Depot at no cost. Andy would like to hear back from LHS before he explores other options. People mentioned that Lexington High School, Brookhaven, and Minuteman Technical High School may be possibilities. Hank Manz mentioned it should be truly accessible, including for the hearing impaired. Vicki and Andy agreed they should call the superintendent of Minuteman Tech because that venue may actually be a draw in and of itself for TM members to come and check out the new building. The proposal team said the format of the meeting would be that someone would present the issue, and then there will be breakout sessions in smaller groups for more discussion. There would be about 30-45 minutes for discussion followed by dessert. Jim Osten mentioned that for the Genesis Battlegreen Run, they use the Minuteman Technical High School culinary department to provide food and desserts, so the proposal team may want to get in touch with them as a possibility. Susan McLeish mentioned it might be nice to wait until after the spring elections so new members can attend; the consensus is that this will not work because then Annual Town Meeting starts and it is too busy, but that the invite could be extended to all potential candidates for the March election.
- IX. “Town Meeting in Lexington” Document Updates—Ben Moroze said that the document was last updated in 2015. He spoke with Deborah Brown and she will look at it and suggest revisions. He asked everyone on the Executive Committee to review it too and make suggestions. Andy Friedlich will check with Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti to see if she spoke with LWV (historically TMMA has updated the document with them) about it as well.
- X. Other Business—Andy Friedlich mentioned that there will be a push on getting TM members’ preferences for paper vs. electronic TM materials. Andy and Brielle Meade will have a meeting about sending emails out. Susan McLeish pointed out that people were annoyed they got a

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paper copy last time even though they opted out, so Brielle and Andy should make sure that people know that will not happen again this time.

- XI. Meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM. Next Meeting will be on October 23, 2019 at 7:30 PM in the Estabrook Room at Cary Memorial Building.

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TMMA
 Treasurer's report
 31-Aug-19

Cash Balance - beginning (3/8/2019)		\$ 1,546.30
Income		
Dues (detail on next worksheet)	\$ 2,705.00	
Mock Town Meeting Collections - 2019*	\$ 120.00	
Total Income	\$ 2,825.00	
Expenses		
Annual Town Meeting		
Printing	\$ 673.40	
Mock Town Meeting-2019		
pencils	\$ 217.00	
Administrative		
framed picture and plaque	\$ 43.00	
Website	\$ 34.84	
Total Expenses	\$ 968.24	
Collections less expenses		\$ 1,856.76
Cash Balance - ending (4/30/2019)		\$ 3,403.06**

*please note that total MTM collections/expenses for 2019 are recorded in 2 separate years.
 Total collections were \$329.00 and total expenses were \$268.10

** there was no activity during the month of July or August