

ELIOT TOWN CHARTER COMMISSION

MINUTES – October 28, 2015

PRESENT: Charles Rankie, Jr. (Chair), Gary Sinden, Rosanne Adams, Roland Fernald, Robert Fisher, Dennis Lentz, John Murphy, Maryann Place, Edward Strong. Also present 2 members of the public.

BUSINESS

1. Public Hearing on proposed Eliot Town Charter.
 - a. The Chair opened and explained that this is the third public hearing; talked about the diverse makeup of the Commission and that this Charter is not about any one individual or individuals, it is about Eliot; members spoke to the process; that there has been quite a bit of positive feedback.
 - b. Members of the public present asked questions about various aspects of the Charter and members of the Commission pointed out some of the procedures that will change in the town because of the Charter as well as what will remain the same.
2. The Public Hearing closed at 7:30PM upon the motion of Edward Strong, 2nd Dennis Lentz. Vote 9-0.
3. Motion by Edward Strong, 2nd John Murphy to accept the minutes of October 14, 2015 as corrected. Vote: 8-0. (Maryann Place abstained as she was not at the meeting)
4. Correspondence
 - a. Agenda for this meeting
 - b. Email concerning the posting of the Public Hearing notice [attached]
 - c. PretiFlaherty (attorney firm) invoice for reviewing the Charter [attached]
 - d. Newspaper article in Portsmouth Herald on October 18, 2015. [attached] The reporter expressed that he was sorry about the cut and pasting that the editors did to the article.
5. Robert Fisher asked about the bumper sticker issue (bill paid for goods we did not order or receive). John Murphy reported that it has been corrected.
6. The Secretary reported that there was also a more recent article in the newspaper [attached]; that the Public Hearing notices were placed in the Sentinel and the Portsmouth Herald and were published as required. She said Melissa Albert, the Administrative Assistant did this on behalf of the Commission.

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7. Rosanne Adams and Robert Fisher sent out over 120 brochures to people who had signed the original Charter petition and thanked them for giving the citizens of Eliot the opportunity to vote on a Charter and letting them know absentee ballots are available.
8. Robert Fisher commented that the Town Manager's newsletter, placed in the Sentinel, was very well written.
9. The Chair reported that Melissa Albert has asked when the next Commission meeting will be. It was AGREED to meet on December 9, 2015 at 7PM at the Town Hall in the small meeting room.

Meeting adjourned at 7: 43pm upon the Motion of Robert Fisher, 2nd Gary Sinden. Vote: 9-0.

Approved: _____

Rosanne M. Adams
Secretary

CC: Committee Members
Eliot Town Clerk