DEPT./BOARD: Bylaw Review Committee

DATE: Tuesday, September 10, 2019

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

PLACE: Town Hall Annex, Basement Room B

Agenda

1. To approve minutes of August 21, 2019 Meeting

2. To review any proposed Town Meeting bylaw changes
TOWN OF BURLINGTON
Bylaw Review Committee Minutes

DATE: September 10, 2019
PLACE: Town Hall Annex – Meeting Room B

Committee Members-Present: Wendy Guthro, David Miller  Absent: Sandra MacKay
Other Attendees: Myrna Saltman

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Wendy Guthro. Since only two members present, the Committee was unable to establish a quorum and therefore, no formal business or voting could be conducted.

Topics
1. Town Meeting Member Vacancy Voting Procedure – Myrna Saltman

Relative to filling a Town Meeting member vacancy. Ms. Saltman proposed that Town Meeting member vacancies be filled at the regular spring Town Meeting. Back up material should be aligned with Myrna’s presentation. Some towns require a quorum of precinct Town Meeting members to elect a new member. Some towns have a precinct chief that oversees selection. Amending Warrant Article to be gender neutral will be an amendment from the floor at Town Meeting or in advance.

Suggestion regarding gender neutral wording to be emailed to proponent to replace the two instances where the gender specific designation is mentioned in the Warrant Article. The new wording should be as follows:

The office of a Town Meeting Member shall become vacant upon the member’s death, resignation, or removal from office in any manner authorized by law.

No quorum so no voting on agenda items, but in case we are wrong….

Motion to support this bylaw once it is amended to be gender neutral. Moved by Dave Miller, seconded by Wendy Guthro.
Vote: Two in favor, zero opposed, zero abstained. Vote cannot carry because a quorum was not established.

2. BRC Voting Procedure

Discussion regarding voting on Bylaw articles brought to BRC on form versus content. One vote versus two votes.
3. Future Agenda Items

A. Vote on allowing remote attendance and voting as recently approved at Selectmen’s meetings. Dave will bring any backup to support details of remot ing into meeting.

B. Last Zoning Bylaw Review Committee – wanted to give BRC meeting because signage bylaw is split between Zoning Bylaw and General Bylaw. If only in General Bylaw it requires a majority vote at Town Meeting versus a Zoning Bylaw change that requires two thirds vote of Town Meeting.

C. Changing our committee name to General Bylaw review committee from Bylaw Review Committee. Investigate all places in both Bylaws in which the name appears and draft a housekeeping Warrant Article to make the change.

D. Consider updating General Bylaw so that the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee can have a non-voting liaison member appointed from the Bylaw Review Committee. This will be an addition to the other two liaisons currently serving on the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee from the Planning Board and the Building Department.

4. Postponed approval of prior meeting minutes.

5. Any other business
   Next meeting scheduled for October 8, 2019, at 6:30pm

6. Adjourn (2-0-0)