

RECEIVED

By Town Clerk's Office at 10:07 am, Oct 12, 2021

Town of Burlington, Town Hall Annex
Rules Committee Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2021

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM. Members present at that time Gary Kasky, Adam Senesi, Myrna Saltman, Ed Dube, Mark Woods

First order of business was to elect a new Chairperson, vice-Chairperson and Secretary.

Myrna Saltman was nominated to serve as Chairperson and was elected by a vote of 5-0-0.

Gary Kasky was nominated as vice Chairperson and was elected by a vote of 5-0-0.

Eleanor O'Connell joined the committee meeting at 7:10 PM.

Mark Woods was nominated as secretary and was elected by a vote of 6-0-0.

After reviewing the by-laws for the Rules Committee, it was noted that the Committee needs representation for each of the seven Burlington precincts, which will require appointments from the Town Moderator for precincts three, four, and five. Gary Kasky is reaching out to the Town Moderator to apprise him of the need for these appointments and has volunteered to help reach out to these precincts if needed.

Next discussed was the recent issue of a number of town meeting members being contacted with a spam form of email. The committee agreed that although the spam issue is a nuisance, as publicly elected officials, contact information for Town Meeting members needs to be available to the public on the town web site. Additionally, Adam Senesi has contacted the Information Systems Advisory Council (ISAC) for their analysis of this issue, and to provide follow up on any suggestions ISAC may have.

Also discussed is the issue of chronic absenteeism by some Town Meeting members and if there is any remedy to address this issue. Our understanding is that Amy Warfield, Burlington Town Clerk, is reviewing this issue with other towns to see how they are currently or have previously addressed this problem. Amy will follow up with the rules committee once the information is available.

Next item discussed was the number of town meetings currently held during a calendar year, and if we need to continue the current number of meetings or if two meetings per year would suffice. Further discussion is warranted.

Also discussed were ways to better engage Town Meeting members throughout the year. One suggestion was to appoint/elect a "warden" for each precinct to provide to each respective precinct member updates on town issues and to engage/encourage discussion among precinct members. Further discussion is warranted on this topic.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12PM.

Submitted, Mark Woods, Rules Committee Secretary, TMM Precinct 7