

Town of Northbridge  
Bylaw Review Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 11, 2017 at 6:00pm  
Northbridge Town Hall

In attendance: Chair Denis LaTour, Henry Lane, Lisa Ferguson and Mark Key. Absent: James Marzec.

The meeting was called to order at 6:19pm by chair Denis LaTour.

Meeting minutes from 4/17 were approved on a motion by Mr. Lane and a second by Mr. LaTour.

The committee discussed the Mullins Rule, including a review of the mechanics and requirements. Ms. Ferguson provided examples of how the Rule is used in Framingham. Mr. LaTour is to check with the Town Clerk to see if this has been adopted, and to seek the viewpoint of town counsel. The BRC also discussed how remote participation may work in town.

Mr. Lane recommended adopting a format that clarifies the uses of Mullins and remote participation so processes are clear. Both options, if adopted should be documented in the same section to streamline future search.

Next the committee began a discussion of the composition of the Building, Planning and Construction Committee. At this point, Clerk Mark Key left the meeting and Lisa Ferguson continued with meeting minutes.

6:40pm:

In attendance: Denis LaTour, Henry Lane and Lisa Ferguson.

Absent: Jim Marzec and Mark Key (left to attend Town Manager Search Committee)

Discussion continued regarding the Attorney position on the Building, Planning and Construction Committee. This is a potentially difficult position to fill because it has to be an attorney.

Members discussed appointment of a School Committee Member to the Finance Committee. The Town Moderator is the appointing authority of all 7 members of the Finance Committee and he opposes this.

The BRC discussed a potential change to the bylaws regarding the Town Meeting warrant being mailed to the voters. Town Clerk, Doreen Cedrone, surveyed Town and City Clerks from the Commonwealth and the majority of towns either robo-call and/or send postcards to voters rather than mailing the entire warrant. Of the total number of towns/cities surveyed, only 2 mail the warrant book to the voters.

The bylaws regarding the Board of Health and the procedure for non-payment of certain municipal charges will have to be updated due to a change to MGL, c. 40 §57.

8:07pm:

With all business concluded, Mr. Lane made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ferguson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Mark Key, Clerk

Lisa Ferguson, Clerk Pro Tem

*Denis LaTour*  
Chairman

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OCT 10 AM 8:11  
TOWN CLERK  
DOREEN A. CEDRONE