



Chester Charter Commission  
Meeting Minutes

Charter Commission Charter Drafting Session: March 19, 2024  
Location: Chester Town Hall First Floor Meeting Room

CALL TO ORDER

The 3.19.24 meeting of the Chester Charter Commission was called to order at 6:30 PM by Richard Strauss, Chairman, Chester Charter Commission. In attendance included: Commission members; Brian Dailey, Richard Strauss, Lol Fearon, Mark Borton, and Ian McLachlan. Pat Holloway and Jesse Gnazzo were absent. There was an audience of citizens of 2.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the draft minutes from the Feb 29 Charter Drafting Session. No discussion followed, the motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF ITEM LIST OF CORRECTIONS AND CHANGES FOR FINAL PROPOSED CHARTER

Discussion regarding capitalization of "Agency" and "Agencies" from previously uncapitalized. Also reviewed the comments received by the Board of Selectmen and Charter Commission from B. Perrault as well as the prepared response to those comments. Richard will provide this response to the Board of Selectmen to be shared with B. Perrault.

UPDATE CHARTER CONVERSATIONS

To date, approximately 50 people have attended the charter conversations.

The Commission discussed reaching out directly to the Valley Courier to see if they would like to send a representative to attend a Charter Conversation.

CHARTER PREAMBLES - DISCUSSION

The commission reviewed sample preambles from other towns and a draft version of a preamble for the Chester Charter. The majority of towns with a charter (88%) do not have a preamble. The decision was made to not recommend a preamble at this time. Consensus amongst the Commission was that a letter of transmittal by the Board of Selectmen might suffice.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S PROPOSED CHARTER PUBLIC HEARING & CHARTER COMMISSION MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE HEARING

The March 28th public hearing will be held at the meeting house. The Commission will meet immediately after the public hearing.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The Charter Commission meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by: Brian Dailey, Secretary, Chester Charter Commission