

12-11-2024 W. Agresta – 402(G)

I can report the following regarding Charter Section 402G:

Historic District Commission – Discussed at 12/02/24 meeting – No need for changes.

Planning Commission – Discussed at 12/04/24 meeting – The Charter should be revised to require the joint meeting to be held consistently each year in January (so all can be aware of when it will be held each year and so the new year can be started off fresh and all can be caught up with what the other commissions are working on). It was also noted that the joint meeting should be more structured and cohesive. Chair Connolly will convey additional comments discussed directly to the Charter Revision Committee.

Suggested rewording:

Joint Meetings of Land Use Commissions and Officials. ~~At least once each calendar year, with no more than twelve (12) months in between meetings~~ The Board of Selectmen shall call and hold a joint meeting of all the land use commissions and all land use officials **during the month of January of each year** to consider those items which the Board of Selectmen and the chairmen of the land use commissions have caused to be included on the agenda for that joint meeting. The Board of Selectmen may call and hold such joint meetings more frequently than once every twelve (12) months.

Inland Wetlands – Discussed at 12/09/24 meeting – Suggest the following change:

Suggested rewording:

Joint Meetings of Land Use Commissions and Officials. At least once each calendar year, with no more than twelve (12) months in between meetings, the Board of Selectmen shall call and hold a joint meeting of all the land use commissions and all land use officials to consider those items which the Board of Selectmen and the chairmen of the land use commissions have caused to be included on the agenda for that joint meeting. The Board of Selectmen may call and hold such joint meetings more frequently than once every twelve (12) months. **Notification of the date, time and place of all joint meetings shall be provided to the land use commissions at least ten (10) days prior.**

Zoning Commission – Discussed at 12/10/24 meeting – No need for changes.

Conservation Commission – Discussed at 12/03/24 meeting – No specific text change but the following is a summary of their discussion:

Joint Land Use Meeting – Chairman Taylor stated that he is looking for ideas of what the commission would like to accomplish at the meeting. The members wondered if the Parks and Rec Department should be part of it. L. Peters noted she would like to see some focus on the POCD requirements. The consensus was also that an annual meeting might not be enough. A strategy could be having several meetings that coordinate with the budget process. A project could be chosen to accomplish and then funding can be budgeted. This could create a rhythm for getting projects done. Chairman Taylor noted how Commission Chairs used to meet informally regularly and that would help keep communication flowing. Discussion continued that projects need a coordinator. It was suggested that the BOS could act as the project manager for all departments. There was also the suggestion of having outside speakers come

to meetings. Chairman Taylor recommended for the members to think on this and send any other suggestions to him.

ZBA – On 12/16/24 agenda for discussion – will follow up thereafter.

Will

William Agresta, AICP, MLA – Town Planner