

**Proposal Summary Statement  
for Consideration by  
the Woodbury Charter Revision Commission (CRC)  
and the Woodbury Board of Selectmen**

Presented by Margaret Arndt - September 11, 2024

I'd like to introduce a valuable and well-conceived governance model that may improve and offer remedies to any issues with Woodbury's town governance.

With the first sociocratic organization [founded](#) in 1926 and [countless organizations](#) currently using sociocracy, including nonprofits, businesses, coops, cohousing, ecovillages, schools, neighborhoods, as well as a world parliament of hundreds of thousands of children in India; many [case studies](#); an abundance of resources (including websites, books, and trainings); and based on my experience using Sociocracy with a dedicated visionary team, - Sociocracy is based on a well-conceived **Organizational Structure, Operating System, and Decision-Making Process** that is clear, efficient, transparent, [egalitarian](#), inclusive, collaborative, responsive, [scalable](#), and doable, and may provide a remedy to town governance issues and/or improve how town governance in Woodbury currently operates, including enhancing participation, developing greater collaboration, better coordinating the flow of information, and ensuring active consent.

[In a nutshell](#), Sociocracy:

- involves community members bottom-up,
- fosters inclusivity, participation, and collaboration,
- brings the decision-making to the people implementing the decisions within Sociocratic organizations known as [circles](#), based on hearing sessions and feedback from community members,
- espouses a [consent-based decision-making](#) process, and
- efficiently coordinates the flow of information in a transparent way through a bottom-up and top-down "[circular hierarchy](#)" with Delegates and Leaders of [double-linked](#) circles.

[I would be glad](#) to demonstrate how Sociocracy could work by convening an ad hoc Sociocratic circle that studies the feasibility of and develops a proposal to the Charter Revision Commission (CRC) and Board of Selectmen on how we could potentially implement Sociocracy in the town of Woodbury, even if tried out in stages, and how it could be a model for other communities and towns.

[In the meantime](#), I have written up a proposal on how to go about considering Sociocracy, which includes ideas and proposals on its practical application in the town of Woodbury - for review and consideration ([here](#)).