

Town Charter Committee

January 28, 2025



Committee met in HYBRID session at 6:30 p.m. at Abbot Hall, 188 Washington Street

The Chair called the meeting of January 28, 2025, to order.

The following committee members were present constituting a quorum:

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| Amy Drinker, Chair | Seamus Hourihan |
| Rosanna Ferrante, Vice Chair | Sean Casey |
| Jim Zisson | Caleb Miller |
| Ron Grenier | Tom Massaro |
| Bill Conly | Victor Wild |
| Thatcher W. Kezer III, Town Administrator, staff support | |

The Chair announced that the meeting is utilizing a webinar platform and is being recorded.

Discussion on Draft A. The Committee reviewed the following sections of the Draft A Town Charter document and addressed any items that members put on hold:

- Preface
- Index
- Preamble
- Article 1 – 3

The Committee discussed the Town's current form of Open Town meeting. Wilde made a motion that it is the sense of the Charter Committee that the Town continue under Open Town Meeting and to declare this intent in the Charter. Moved by Grenier. Hourihan moved to amend the main motion to add that it is highly recommended that the town seriously consider modifications in terms of place, time, format and support for Town Meeting. The Committee discussed the amendment to the motion. No second was made on the amended motion. Wilde withdrew his original motion. No votes were taken.

Instead, it is established by consensus of the Charter Committee to move forward and support Marblehead's current Open Town Meeting form of government.

Housekeeping items. The Committee should review Article 4 and 5 and send any holds to the Chair prior to the next meeting. The Chair will continue to invite the remaining department heads and committee/board members to a future meeting. A brief discussion was had on public forums. The Committee will continue this discussion in more detail at its next meeting.

Public Comment. None

Next Meeting Date. Thursday, February 13, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. All in favor.

Kyle A. Wiley

Kyle A. Wiley, Administrative Clerk

List of documents used: Draft A, January 25, 2025