

Greensboro Selectboard

January 26, 2023 – Minutes

[Meeting was held via video conference]

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ellen Celnik, Gary Circosta, Tracy Collier, David Kelley, Peter Romans

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Greaves, Josh Karp, Brett Stanciu, Eric Hanson, MacNeil

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:33 PM

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

2023 TOWN MEETING

Like the last two years, the State is allowing the 2023 town meeting to be held by Australian Ballot, and/or to be delayed as towns see fit. Peter asked those present for their thoughts about these options.

Kim said that due to the State's last minute decision making, choosing the Australian Ballot option would delay town meeting by at least 2-4 weeks. Factors causing a delay include having to change and approve a new warning, allowing time for those seeking elected office to file petitions, and having ballots printed up. In-person town meeting or not, Kim and Jeanne will be up at HCA on March 7 administering the school budget vote.

Tracy said she's concerned that some residents might attend an in-person town meeting while sick, because they want to be able to vote.

David said that while there's certainly a place for in-person debate, he agreed that he didn't want residents to get sick by attending the meeting.

Josh asked about the ventilation system at HCA; David said it's a very good system.

Peter has discussed town meeting with moderator Tim Nisbet. If the meeting is held in-person, the town can't make masks obligatory, and lunch won't be offered.

David made the following motion:

The town will hold a traditional in-person town meeting on March 7.

Ellen seconded the motion.

Further discussion. Tracy said she'll vote no on the motion, reiterating that the event could spread Covid. She asked whether the Board has sought advice from the town health officer. Peter said he spoke with Karl Stein, who felt that holding an in-person town meeting was reasonable and that most attendees will likely wear a mask.

Peter said that most residents he's spoke with were fine with either town meeting option.

Eric said that an in-person town meeting is an important part of our heritage and that Covid levels have been low in the area, implying that it would be reasonably safe.

David called the question. The motion carried (G.C., D.K., E.C. in favor; T.C. against; P.R. abstained).

Town meeting has started at 10 AM for many years; Peter proposed an earlier start, which could allow things to wrap up by lunchtime. After discussion, Peter made the following motion:

The March 7 town meeting will begin at 9 AM.

David seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
Kim will widely publicize this new start time.

SIGN WARNING FOR TOWN MEETING

The only change the Board made to the warning was changing the start time to 9 AM. David made the following motion:

The Board approves the 2023 town meeting warning as amended.

Tracy seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk