

Charter Revision Commission
Procedure Subcommittee
Minutes of Meeting
April 8, 2020

The Procedure Subcommittee met on Wednesday, April 8, 2020 via Zoom meeting. Attending were Gwen Marrion, Eleanor Georges, Monita Hebert and Liz Waters. The meeting started at 9:00 a.m. and ended at 9:55 a.m.

The subcommittee listened to opinions on the following procedural issues:

1. Property owners voting on referenda

Monita concerned with CT General Statute 7-6. Property holders not resident in town could be voting twice on issues if resident in neighboring towns. Referenced a court case (that she will send) where judge ruled an estate executor could vote in referenda on behalf of estate. Liz would like to see "right to vote" given to person, not an entity.

Monita would also like to see this as an ordinance in town, so that it can be easily modified. Items like this in the town charter are not easily remedied, as town charter review is within 10 year intervals. Liz says to verify voters on grand list.

2. Tie breaking for candidates other than First Selectman

Monita would like to see everything go to election first, and coin toss only if candidates are amenable. She would like the cost of special election to not be a concern, and considers coin toss an issue of voter suppression.

3. Use of paper ballots at town meetings.

Both our guests were in favor of using paper ballots at town meetings upon any request, and without further vote.

Monita brought up that town meetings are sometimes attended by non-resident interested parties that are not qualified to vote in town. Liz suggested that individuals at town meetings could be determined as electors by town moderator using voter list.

4. Vacancy terms filled by appointment. Both our guests agreed that vacancy appointees should serve out the term of the vacancy filled.

Submitted by,

Eleanor Georges