

RTM Coordinating Committee Meeting 17 May 2010

Present: Charles Beale, precinct 9
Linda Weston, precinct 6
Robert Nerz, precinct 7
Matt Trowbridge, precinct 2
Walter St. Lawrence, precinct 2
Shelly Ross, precinct 5
Jan Meierdiercks, precinct 6
Paul Follett, precinct 5

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 P.M. at the NAPD Meeting Room by Mr. Beale, Chair.

Secretary's Report

Due to illness, Catherine Shuman has not been able to type the minutes from the previous meeting. We signed a card for her and, though she was absent from the meeting, we wished her good health and best of luck in recovering from her illness.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. St. Lawrence reported no new activity regarding the group's finances.

Old Business

- Moderator
 - One person, William Moffitt, has officially submitted a letter of interest regarding the Moderator position. One person, Luke Connolly, had expressed interest to Mr. Trowbridge but had not been told the proper procedure for submitting a letter of interest and was therefore unable to be considered by the RTMCC for endorsement. *RTMCC voted to endorse Mr. Moffitt – five members in favor, two abstaining.*
 - Walter expressed concern over the miscommunication regarding Mr. Connolly's interest. Mr. Beale said he would speak to Town Clerk Max Gould about allowing nominations to be presented from the floor.

New Business

- *The RTMCC voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Trowbridge as secretary pro-tem until Ms. Shuman is able to return, or until RTMCC holds their annual caucus.*
- Moving the Question
 - Concern had been raised over RTM members moving the question before both sides are equally voiced. Mr. St. Lawrence expressed that other RTM members who had been waiting to be called on were upset that they had never been informed they could challenge the Moderator on moving the question.
 - A discussion sparked regarding the rules of Town Meeting Time procedure. We were informed that the Moderator can disallow the motion to move a question if they feel both sides have not been equally voiced. Mr. Nerz pointed out that a point of order can be made if the Moderator fails to ask for discussion on moving the question.
 - Discussion then geared toward the question that sparked this topic; the new EPA requirements for water levels. The body was informed that Blackstone, MA was in the process of appealing the demands recently placed on them by the EPA. Attleboro had recently lost an appeal regarding this same issue.

- Seating
 - Mr. Beale spoke with Mr. Gould and Town Administrator Mark Fisher and was informed that individual seating during an RTM meeting would require an article sent forth by the RTM to the State Legislature for their approval. A vote of the RTMCC to consider individual seating failed unanimously.
 - Suggestions that were brought forth were: that Chairs and Vice Chairs enforce precinct seating by asking those who are wrongfully seated at a table to re-locate to the table designated for their precinct; that the Moderator re-enforce basic rules before the start of the meeting; that this issue be mentioned and the rule enforced during caucuses.

- Pre Town Meeting
 - The date has been changed to May 26th, still to be held at 7:00 P.M. and located at the NAPD Meeting Room. North TV will record and re-play several times between 26 May and the Annual Meeting date, 7 June.

Ms. Ross made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Trowbridge.
RTMCC adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew R. Trowbridge

Secretary, pro-tem
RTM Coordinating Committee