

Town of Greenwich

Selectmen's Board of Education Charter Revision Committee

Meeting 14 February 2017

4:00 p.m.

Town Hall – Cone Room

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

a. Attendance: Committee members: Joan Caldwell (Chair), William Finger, Barry Rickert (telephone), Peter von Braun, Brian Peldunas (Secretary) – Present.

Members of the public: Wynn McDaniel, Ken Borsuk

2. Discussion of draft recommendation document.

Mr. Peldunas reviewed his discussions with the Town of Greenwich Law Department relating to the statutes to be used as the basis for the recommended changes (Section 9-206a). In addition, he reviewed the alternatives for the number of nominations allowable by each party and the number of candidates for which a voter may vote. Since there is no provision in 9-206a, the default would be 9-204 which would limited the number nominated and number to vote to the simple majority of the number to be elected (e.g., two in the case of three to be elected, or three in the case of five to be elected). The individuals seated would be the three or five highest vote getters. The alternative available (Law Department is confirming with the Secretary of State's office) is section 9-204b, which allows for the number each party may nominate and the number a voter can vote for to be the number total to be elected (e.g., three in the case of three to be elected, or five in the case of five to be elected). The individuals seated would be determined according to section 9-167a. The first alternatives would remove most of the confusion surrounding the seating of candidates, but limit choice. The second alternative would provide more choice for the parties and potentially for the voter.

After discussion of the alternatives during which Mr. Peldunas, Mr. Rickert and Mr. von Braun expressed support for the second alternative, Mr. von Braun made a motion to recommend that the maximum number to be nominated and the maximum votes to be cast be equal to the total number of those to be elected (i.e., the second alternative). Mr. Rickert seconded the motion. No further discussion occurred. The vote was 4-0-1, with Mr. Finger abstaining.

The Committee reviewed the draft recommendation document. Mr. Peldunas was asked to redraft the document to deliver to the Board of Selectmen of 9 March 2017.

3. Approval of minutes.

The minutes for 19 January 2017 were approved by motion of Mr. von Braun, seconded by Mr. Finger (5-0-0).

4. Adjourn.

Mr. von Braun made a motion to adjourn at 4:55, seconded by Mr. Finger.

Joan Caldwell, Chair

Prepared by Brian Peldunas, Secretary

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