

## **Minutes of the Government Study Committee Meeting October 26, 2004**

Present: George Bailey, Anne Carney, David Fixler, Andy Nebenzahl, Gloria Rose, Pat Zlotin

Minutes of the October 14, 2004 meeting were approved.

Anne is looking into whether or not we need a charter commission to change the form of town government. She will ask the Massachusetts Municipal Association for guidance.

**.Moved: The Government Study Committee recommend a Town Council form of Government for the Town of Sharon. Unanimous**

.It was agreed that a successful adoption of a council form of government would require strong support from the other boards and committees in town. The first step in the process will be to educate the boards and committees. Andy suggested a facilitated meeting with the other boards and committees to help them understand why we feel it would be appropriate to change to a council.

**Moved: The Government Study Committee formally requests the Board of Selectmen to convene a workshop and include a number of committees and boards. The invitees should include, but not be limited to, Government Study Committee, Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, School Committee, Planning Board, Zone Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, and the Trustees of the Public Library. The purpose of the workshop shall be to discuss alternative forms of government for Sharon in the context of the Government Study Committee recommendation. Unanimous.**

The annual report of the committee will be drafted by George Bailey.

Anne Carney will mail a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting a meeting to discuss our recommendation as well as to request the workshop. Anne plans to provide the Selectmen with a draft of the Annual Report of the committee prior to the meeting. It is hoped that the workshop will be held in the spring.

The committee will ask Marilyn Contreas who works at the Mass Dept. of Communities and Development, to meet with us.

Anne will send letters to the Planning Board and Personnel Board requesting they appoint a representative to fill their vacancies on our committee.

Next Meeting: Co-incident with the meeting with the Board of Selectmen.

Postscript: The meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2004 at 7:30 PM.