

TOWN OF WARNER



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BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORK SESSION DRAFT MINUTES

Tuesday, 7:00 pm

This meeting is zoom only. There is no physical location.

PREAMBLE

Read by Chairman Clyde Carson: Good Afternoon, as Chair of the Select Board, I am declaring a state of emergency exists and I am invoking the provisions of RSA 91-A:2, iii (b). Federal, State, and local officials have determined that gatherings of 10 or more people pose a substantial risk to our community in its continuing efforts to combat the spread of COVID-19. In concurring with their determination, I also find that this meeting is imperative to the continued operation of the Town of Warner government and services, which are vital to public safety and confidence during this emergency. As such, this meeting will be conducted without a quorum of this body physically present in the same location. At this time, I welcome members of the public access the meeting remotely. The usual rules of conduct and decorum apply. Please note that all votes at this meeting will be done by roll call.

1. Roll Call/Attendance/Preamble

Chair Carson called the meeting to order at 7:03pm and took a roll call.

Present: Clyde Carson (1 other in the house), Jonathan Lord (alone), Sam Bower (one other in the house)

2. Town Meeting – Ray Martin, Moderator

Ray Martin said that the Main Street Bookends site was not looking to be a great place to hold the Town Meeting due to access. The Indian Museum folks have offered their space which is outside and in an open area. May 1, Saturday, the date agreed on for Town Meeting, is also the day the museum opens for the season. If the selectboard chooses to hold the meeting inside, they could have it at the Town Hall with social distancing. Ray's first choice is May 1st and have it outside. Up to 2-5 hours prior to the meeting, the meeting can be postponed, canceled or moved. If weather is an issue, the date of the meeting can be moved up to an earlier date or delayed to a later date. Ray said would prefer to start the meeting around 9 or 10am.

Ray said if holding the meeting outside at the museum, he didn't think they needed to get a big screen but they could look into it. The museum has 100 chairs available that could be set up and they could bring more from town hall. There is plenty of parking and a lot of room to hold the meeting. There is electricity and they can have a sound system and roaming microphone.

Ray said they can move the date forward or backwards or to another location if the CDC mandates require that their plans do not align with regulations. The Town Hall is 2,500sq'. The balcony is also available. They could get just under 200 people inside safely. Families are permitted to sit together, not socially distanced. His choice is to plan for the May 1st meeting at the Indian Museum.

Clyde said that he spoke with Andy Bullock, Director of the Kearsarge Indian Museum. Having the town meeting on their opening day was not a problem and perhaps they could offer a discount to voters who are there and want

to visit it. It seems they are on board with the idea of having their meeting there. If it rains, however, they will need a back-up. Ray said that there is an auditorium on site but it is smaller than the Town Hall. In the event of rain, it is possible they could adjourn to the Town Hall.

Chris Perkins, Supervisor of the Checklist Chair, said she felt the option for the Indian Museum was viable. Melissa St. Pierre, Supervisor of the Checklist, agreed. She hoped the weather was ok so they wouldn't have to adjust anything. Michele Courser, Town Clerk, said it is important that everyone can hear what the speakers are saying. They could definitely work it out.

Diane Ricciardelli, Town Administrator, asked if the meeting would be zoomed or live-streamed at all. Ray said he wasn't planning on it. He spoke with the moderator from Northfield. They had separated people in the gym and it went well. Clyde said that Hopkinton did theirs as a drive-through and it went well also. Ray felt that they could use some help from the Police for parking. He didn't anticipate 200 cars, but at a recent event they accommodated 200 people. Overflow cars could park along the road. He estimated about 150 to 200 registered voters coming.

Chris said they will need a central entrance point for people to come check in with the supervisors of the check list and get their ballots.

Martha Mical, a member of the public, asked about bathrooms. Ray said he would check with Andy Bullock. Clyde said there are bathrooms in the museum but they would need to bring in a port-a-potty or two. He also said that this is a light year for voting; it isn't an election year. There will be expenses incurred nonetheless. Diane said they may be able to get expenses reimbursed due to this accommodation for Covid-19.

Chris asked if there was an area for a tent. Ray said there was room. A tent the size of 20' x 40' would be cost around \$700-\$800. He would look into it. Sam felt a tent would be a good idea. He also said that having water available for people would be good if it is hot. The shade from a tent might be useful. Ray said that the museum has several easy-up tents that could be used.

Martha Mical asked if they would have a screen. Ray said that they would need to decide this. It would need to be a good-sized screen if so. Martha said if they will have a screen, the Budget Committee will have slides. If not, they will do something on paper.

It was the consensus that the Indian Museum was where the meeting should be planned.

Clyde opened the meeting up for public comment.
There was none.

Ray was given the green light to go forward. Diane said there were a lot of moving parts but there was time to get it all planned. Ray will make a "to do" list of vendors to contact and get quotes from including for the tent and audio.

Nancy Ladd, Pillsbury Free Librarian, offered the use of the library's 10' tents, of which they have two.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Heath, Recording Secretary
Town of Warner