

**REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING  
Darlen, Connecticut**

Town Government Structure and Administration (TGS&A) Committee

A Regular Meeting of the TGS&A Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 7:30pm in the Room 119, Town Hall.

The agenda for the meeting will be:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 1/19/16 Regular Meeting of the Committee (attached).
2. Introduction of new member of the Committee: Anstiss Agnew (District 2)
3. Recap of status of three items passed by the Committee on 1/19/16:
  - revision of the section of Appendix B that has to do with the procedure for nomination of the RTM Moderator in the fall (deferred until next meeting of Rules)
  - consideration of the imposition of “term limits on committee assignments” in regard to the number of years of continuous service permitted on one committee (deferred until next meeting of Rules – at which time it may be included with codification of procedures to be used by Rules in these matters)
    - revision to Appendix B concerning loss of self-nomination privilege for Members with poor RTM or Committee attendance (minor revision requested to text, formatting exhibit for distribution, and research re: similar rule adopted by Greenwich RTM. Will be on 3/7/16 Rules Agenda)
4. Review of a resolution concerning duties of the Harbormaster, forwarded by the Rules Committee (attached).
5. Review of the request by the Board of Selectmen that the RTM look into a blight ordinance, and the activities of this committee to date, in response.
6. Assignment of further research tasks to members of the committee.
7. Other “new business” that may be called to the attention of the Committee.
8. Adjournment

Frank Kemp, Chairman

Minutes for TGS&A Regular Meeting

January 19, 2015 7:30 p.m.

Room 119 Town Hall

6 of 11 members present

Present were: Frank B. Kemp, M. Caroline Luz, Harry D. McLachlin, Joseph D. Miceli, Clara C. Sartori, and Chris Ezbiansky.

Absent were: Eugene F. Coyle, Nancy Coyle Downs, Kenneth A. Fiveson, Jr., John Boulton, and S. Lloyd Plehaty

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

AGENDA:

1. The minutes of the 10/26/15 Special Meeting of TGS&A were approved unanimously.
2. The Committee reviewed the resolution proposing moving Part III – Sec. 3 of Appendix B to Part I, Chapter XIII, Section 53 of the Town Charter. This is considered a maintenance change and the Committee was in agreement by acclaim. No vote was held.
3. We reviewed several matters referred to us by the Rules Committee.
  - a) A maintenance change to the procedure for nominating the Moderator of the RTM to better reflect the reality of how this has worked for the past decade. The Committee unanimously approved the proposed change.
  - b) We discussed at length the proposal to institute term limits for committee members, focusing on the hoped-for end result of enticing “new blood” and “new ideas” onto committees and reducing the risk of committees becoming stagnant over time. We believe this topic is substantial enough that it should be reviewed by all standing committees of the RTM before coming up for a vote and we voted unanimously to recommend that EITHER: 1) the Rules Committee send the current proposed change to all committees, with an amendment to the 8-year limit that would make an exception for Committee Chairs so that a Chairman could remain on a Committee for up to 10 years to finish committee work that might otherwise be disrupted;  
OR  
2) the Rules Committee eliminate the need for this change to Appendix B by issuing guidelines that would clarify the Rules Committee’s criteria for committee assignments, allowing for new members to be assigned to popular committees and encouraging shifting among more established RTM members.
  - c) We considered the imposition of a loss of self-nomination privilege for members with poor RTM or Committee attendance. We voted unanimously to approve the proposed change (highlighted in italics) to Part II- Sec. 6, with the following addition to the following sentence: “A town meeting member **who has an attendance record of 50% or more RTM meetings, and 50% or more standing committee meetings during his or her current elected term** may nominate himself for reelection from the same district by giving written notice to such effect to the town clerk at least ten (10) weeks before the election.”
4. The Committee briefly reviewed pending items that will come before us in future months, including harbor master requests and archaic language concerning the Public Works department in the Town Charter.
5. It was noted that the “blight” situation was summarized in a Darien Times article on December 17<sup>th</sup>. The Committee will next proceed with visits to other towns to inform our recommendations for a draft ordinance.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Caroline Luz, Clerk, TGS&A

**RESOLUTION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING OF THE  
TOWN OF DARIEN AMENDING ARTICLE 2 OF THE  
DARIEN TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES**

**WHEREAS**, the Darien Harbor Master is charged with enforcing regulations governing Darien harbors as defined in Section 78 of the Darien Code of Ordinances; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of boaters wishing to moor vessels in Darien harbors and waters has increased; and

**WHEREAS**, the misuse of moorings can cause a hazard to boaters and damage to other vessels.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Representative Town Meeting of the Town of Darien Article 2 of the Town Code of Ordinances entitled “Boats, Harbors and Waterways” is hereby amended to read as follow:

Rights and responsibilities Mooring Holder:

- a) The mooring holder is responsible for installing and maintaining all mooring tackle according to Town regulations.
- b) Mooring holders may only use the approved mooring for the vessel registered in the mooring application.
- c) The Harbor Master must approve any changes to the size or type of vessel being placed on the mooring.
- d) The mooring holder may not grant access to the mooring to another vessel.
- e) Mooring holders are required to occupy their mooring no later than June 15 of the each year. Requests for exceptions must be made in writing to the Harbor Master.
- f) Violations of this Ordinance are subject to penalties provided in Article 2.