

COMMITTEE MEETING LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATION
MEETING MINUTES
August 2, 2022 @ 5:39 PM

Members: P Iacono, J. Steele, C. Messina, J. Garskof, K. Wackerman, J. Vergara, D. Georgiadis, T. Lambert

I. Roll call

T. Lambert conducted a roll call. J. Steele, J. Garskof, K. Wackerman, J. Vergara, D. Georgiadis, T. Lambert present; C. Messina and P. Iacono absent.

II. Items on the Call

- a) Item #1 on the Call, the Moderator has referred an ordinance creating an Arts Commission, sponsored by Jeff Steele, District 2; Sharon Pistilli, District 3; Marcy Spolyar, District 4; Hannah Gale, District 6; Jill Vergara, District and Karen Wackerman, District 7 to the Legislation and Administration Committee under Rule 32 of the RTM Rules to Regulate.

K. Wackerman discussed designation of cultural districts in town which allows for grant money, support from state tourism office, etc. This would establish commission to get that going. There were a few changes from speaking with Attorney Baldwin and others. If for some reason can't have cultural district, can still become an arts commission. Representative Wackerman then walked the committee through the ordinance generally, included some changes to make.

D. Georgiadis suggested defining term artists and also suggested capping political party representation at three members of each party rather than four. Discussion then ensued about what state requirements were for boards and commissions.

Discussion then continued onto differences between "electors" and "residents." Change was suggested to bring in more people and to get more Fairfield residents involved.

There needs to be a cultural district commission which is comprised of an enumerated list coming from the state's DECD. J. Steele suggested making these Fairfield electors (as required) "to the extent possible," to which others agreed.

As for date of appointments, no date should be specified, but rather should be tied to "upon approval of ordinance by the RTM."

After walking through ordinance and process for approval, body then had discussion about commission being set up first then district. The body then discussed the possibility of others who might be opposed to this ordinance.

After discussion turned to crumb rubber ordinance, discussion resumed with this ordinance with redline presented by K. Wackerman of changes discussed, including 9 members for the commission. D. Georgiadis suggested switching “scheduled” back to “stated.”

J. Vergara moved, and T. Lambert seconded, bringing this ordinance to a vote. All members present unanimously voted in favor.

- b) Item #2 on the Call The Moderator has referred an ordinance prohibiting the use of artificial turf containing rubber infill, sponsored by Cindy Perham, District 2; Jeff Galdenzi, District 3; Sharon Pistilli, District 3; Laura Karson, District 4; Will Diaz, District 5; Andrew Graceffa, District 6; Mark McDermott, District 7; Jill Vergara, District 7; Christine Brown, District 9; and Dru Georgiadis, District 9 to the Legislation and Administration Committee under Rule 32 of the RTM Rules to Regulate.

J. Vergara led discussion on ordinance. Discussed consensus of type of infill to be used for turf field. Noted bipartisan support for this measure. She then walked through each element of ordinance. She also discussed inserting it in Chapter 35 of ordinances for real property management of town property as appropriate spot for ordinance.

Suggested change by J. Garskof from “Fairfield residents” to “people.” After discussion, the committee agreed.

Suggested change by J. Garskof for effective date to be “upon ratification by the RTM” instead of a specific date. The committee similarly agreed.

D. Georgiadis expressed concerns about crumb rubber being disposed of in town trash or waste. J. Garskof suggested we could not resolve those concerns with this ordinance.

J. Vergara moved, and T. Lambert seconded, bringing this ordinance to a vote. All members present unanimously voted in favor.

III. New business

- a) To consider and act upon any other matters presented to said meeting and which may be properly acted upon under the rules of the Representative Town Meeting. None

IV. Adjournment

J. Garskof adjourned the meeting at 6:37 PM.
Minutes submitted by: Tom Lambert