

**Town of Hingham  
Naming By-Law Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

Date: April 13, 2023

Place: on Zoom

In attendance: committee members Philip Edmundson (chair), Wendy Ellison, Victor Baltera, Christine Falvey

Absent: Tom O'Reilly

Chair Edmundson called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM. The following statement was then read:

“This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to an Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts dated March 12, 2020 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording. “

Ms. Falvey and Ms. Erikson presented an updated draft of a naming policy which incorporates committee comments from our last meeting. The committee intends for this draft to help the Select Board by identifying topics to be considered as the board crafts its official policy. The committee made several clarifying language changes in the draft and decided to recommend that sunset clauses be adopted on a case-by-case basis. The committee then voted as follows to adopt the recommended policy, as revised during the discussion:

Mr. Edmundson	Yes
Mr. Baltera	Yes
Ms. Ellison	Yes
Ms. Falvey	Yes

The committee discussed presentation of article 22 at Town Meeting. If it appears that input beyond that from the Advisory Committee is necessary, Mr. Baltera will speak on behalf of the committee. Otherwise, he will be available to answer questions that may come up at the meeting. Mr. Edmundson will be available on the second night of Town Meeting to respond to questions if the article is not reached the first night.

The committee decided not to submit a press release about the naming bylaw article this close to Town Meeting. It was felt that a better strategy would be to alert groups that are in favor of the article to make sure they show up at Town Meeting. Mr. Edmundson will undertake to send emails to supporters and refer them to the text in the warrant.

The committee voted to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2023 meeting 4-0 on a roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Edmundson	Yes
Mr. Baltera	Yes
Ms. Ellison	Yes
Ms. Falvey	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 PM.

Documents:

Draft minutes for the meeting of March 8, 2023

Updated draft Town of Hingham Public Asset Naming Policy for the Select Board

Updated draft of proposed press release