

# SWC Responses for BOS Meeting

Name Please! (We can't take anonymous comments for this) \*

Megan Portnoy

At the SWC meeting on May 26, 2025 the chair stated that the “committee would not be taking marching orders from the Board of Selectmen”.

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

☐ Other: .....

Mission Statement and Committee Charge as developed by Board of Selectmen in 2016.

☐ Yes agree with original mission statement

☐ No, disagree with original statement, I prefer the changes we made

☐ Other: .....

Does the committee recognize the authority of the BOS to appoint members?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other: .....

Does the committee plan on appointing a Co-Chair?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other: It is my recommendation that we do so. I do not know if the committee has a plan for this. ....

Can the committee understand the importance of passing on information on projects that are successful or not?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other: .....

Futher Comments

Per the RSA's that govern these types of appointed committees, relative to boards that operate independently, I do not believe these should be question of what the committee WANTS to do. Rather, this is a matter of the committee operating within the regulations of its limited capacity and power. ....



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stephen rasche

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Does the committee plan on appointing a Co-Chair?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other: .....

Can the committee understand the importance of passing on information on projects that are successful or not?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other: .....

Futher Comments

I don't think that anyone on the committee felt that they were working in contradiction to the wishes of the BOS. I realize that my own petition warrant article was not supported by the BOS but that warrant article was not a SWC initiative. Indeed it was opposed by the SWC. Kent attended all of the meetings and gave no indication that the committee was veering into unwanted territory. I realize that the BOS has a new composition now and I am fine with the BOS nudging the SWC in a new direction.

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Does the committee plan on appointing a Co-Chair?

☒ Yes

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☐ Other: .....

Can the committee understand the importance of passing on information on projects that are successful or not?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other: .....

Futher Comments

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# SWC Responses for BOS Meeting

Name Please! (We can't take anonymous comments for this) \*

LeeAnn Mackey

At the SWC meeting on May 26, 2025 the chair stated that the “committee would not be taking marching orders from the Board of Selectmen”.

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

☒ Other:

I do not recall the chair using that language. I do recall the chair suggesting that "directing" or "focusing" the committee in the way it was stated by the BOS during their videotaped meeting, would not go over well with the rest of the committee --I believe he said this as evidenced by the letters/statements of displeasure made by committee members on this subject.

Mission Statement and Committee Charge as developed by Board of Selectmen in 2016.

☐ Yes agree with original mission statement

☐ No, disagree with original statement, I prefer the changes we made

☒ Other:

I'm not sure why the BOS rep made this a big issue because the current committee did work on and approve a committee vision statement which appeared in the 'Plan for Tomorrow' and put on the town website. Regardless if the wording was identical to the 2016 statement; the nature of, and subsequent work we did as a committee were identical in nature. However, in the spirit of being cooperative with the current BOS rep being insistent on keeping this a major issue, the committee did work on revising the 2016 mission statement and voted to approve IT as the new 'official' mission document. To keep bringing this up as an 'issue' when it's been satisfactorily resolved feels unnecessary.

Does the committee recognize the authority of the BOS to appoint members?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other:

My answer to this is Yes of course they can, but my question is why would they need to do that without communicating with the committee? 2-way communication about adding new members, which has been the norm for as long as I've been on the committee, has already been proven to be an effective and satisfactory method so I fail to see where there is a lack of recognition regarding authority..

Does the committee plan on appointing a Co-Chair?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other:

Can the committee understand the importance of passing on information on projects that are successful or not?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other:

Based on past recorded history, it is my understanding that one of the most primary functions of having a BOS rep on every board or committee is so they themselves can keep their own board informed of activities happening among the groups they are tasked with attending. On video, I regularly see BOS reps reporting activities (failed or otherwise) of the committees/boards, so the reason for requiring secondary reporting of the same information would therefore be unnecessary.

### Futher Comments

I'll save my further comments for the face to face meeting with the BOS.

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# SWC Responses for BOS Meeting

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Roy Plisko

At the SWC meeting on May 26, 2025 the chair stated that the “committee would not be taking marching orders from the Board of Selectmen”.

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

☒ Other: I did not attend that meeting and therefore cannot comment on what was said.

Mission Statement and Committee Charge as developed by Board of Selectmen in 2016.

☐ Yes agree with original mission statement

☐ No, disagree with original statement, I prefer the changes we made

☒ Other:

I was unaware of the existence of this 2016 mission statement from a dissolved past committee until it was presented at a committee meeting by the current BOS representative at her first meeting acting as the liaison to the committee. At that meeting we were asked to discuss it, comment on it, and vote on it immediately. Until that moment, I do not recall any public record of a BOS representative presenting us with the 2016 mission statement or a charge document. It was not included in any orientation materials when I was confirmed or mentioned in prior meetings.

Does the committee recognize the authority of the BOS to appoint members?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other:

Yes, I recognize that the BOS has the legal authority to appoint members. However, clarity and transparency in the process of appointments, including timing and communication with the committee are important to maintain trust and function.

Does the committee plan on appointing a Co-Chair?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other:

The topic of a vice chair was raised by the BOS representative at the last meeting I attended. I am not aware of any prior or subsequent vote or decision.

Can the committee understand the importance of passing on information on projects that are successful or not?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other:

It is my understanding that the BOS representatives are tasked with reporting any significant activities in the committees they liaison with. Additionally, the committee makes formal recommendations to the BOS when needed. Our meeting minutes provide summaries of our discussions, though they are not detailed transcripts.

## Futher Comments

I have always understood advisory committees like ours to be composed of citizen volunteers contributing to the civic process in a semi-independent capacity. Our legally recognized role is to study issues, develop insights, and advise the Board of Selectmen. This was the understanding presented to me when I joined, and it has shaped everything I have observed while serving. I do not see advisory committees as subordinate staff under BOS directive, but rather as partners in public service. Ultimately, we all operate at the pleasure of the public.

As public bodies under RSA 91-A, advisory committees are required to meet openly, record minutes, and report findings transparently. NHMA guidance makes it clear that these committees exist to study complex issues and provide independent recommendations. While the BOS retains authority to appoint members and define a committee's scope, that authority does not extend to pre-approving or suppressing committee content. Attempting to do so would compromise both transparency and the committee's essential advisory function.

In my view, everything I have witnessed as a committee member has remained consistent with the mission statement and charge document, both of which are now being presented as grounds to question the committee's legitimacy.

The fact that concerns over "process"... and threats to dissolve the committee... emerged only after I presented a detailed risk analysis about PFAS and landfill contamination raises serious questions about motive. Regardless of intent, the optics resemble censorship and retaliation, rather than constructive governance.

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Greg Heath

At the SWC meeting on May 26, 2025 the chair stated that the “committee would not be taking marching orders from the Board of Selectmen”.

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

☒ Other: Memorial Day. I was not present at the meeting.

Mission Statement and Committee Charge as developed by Board of Selectmen in 2016.

☐ Yes agree with original mission statement

☐ No, disagree with original statement, I prefer the changes we made

☒ Other: I do not disagree with the original statement, but I prefer the changes we made.

Does the committee recognize the authority of the BOS to appoint members?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other: .....

Does the committee plan on appointing a Co-Chair?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other: It has not come up on our agenda that I recall. The committee may plan to do so. ....

Can the committee understand the importance of passing on information on projects that are successful or not?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other: I cannot speak for the committee. I am one person. I do understand that importance. ....

Futher Comments

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# SWC Responses for BOS Meeting

Name Please! (We can't take anonymous comments for this) \*

Rich Marcou

At the SWC meeting on May 26, 2025 the chair stated that the “committee would not be taking marching orders from the Board of Selectmen”.

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

☒ Other:

I have not said those words specifically as outlined above in quotations. There was a discussion in our meeting about the BOS directing the SWC to research specific topics, such as the use of "stickers" for trash bags. But I, the Chair of the SWC, did not say those words!

Mission Statement and Committee Charge as developed by Board of Selectmen in 2016.

☐ Yes agree with original mission statement

☐ No, disagree with original statement, I prefer the changes we made

☒ Other:

When the SWC was afforded the opportunity to review a "Mission Statement" from a previous SWC written in 2016, current members insisted that they would like to modify the language to make it their own.

Does the committee recognize the authority of the BOS to appoint members?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other:

Yes, that is the current process that is followed. However, I do take issue with any citizen that is put on the committee, that has no interest in the multiple facets of Solid Waste, but "appointed" by the BOS to "fix" a problem that doesn't exist. I believe the issue at hand is simply poor communication between the BOS and the committee.

Does the committee plan on appointing a Co-Chair?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other: If the committee would like to do that, I would support it.

Can the committee understand the importance of passing on information on projects that are successful or not?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other:

That is the fundamental foundation of good communication. However, I thought that was the reason why a BOS representative was "assigned" and present for our meetings...so they could report back to the full BOS.

### Futher Comments

I wish to make a prepared statement.

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Name Please! (We can't take anonymous comments for this) \*

Russ Maille

At the SWC meeting on May 26, 2025 the chair stated that the “committee would not be taking marching orders from the Board of Selectmen”.

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

☒ Other:

I would expect that the BOS would propose projects to the SWC and the SWC would propose projects to the BOS. would expect that the SWC would propos

Mission Statement and Committee Charge as developed by Board of Selectmen in 2016.

☐ Yes agree with original mission statement

☐ No, disagree with original statement, I prefer the changes we made

☒ Other: I believe the new mission statement has additions that the BOS should consider.

Does the committee recognize the authority of the BOS to appoint members?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Other: I believe the BOS and the SWC should probably confer on members prior to their appointment.

Does the committee plan on appointing a Co-Chair?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Other: I have no idea. Is the better question should the SWC appoint a co-chair?

Can the committee understand the importance of passing on information on projects that are successful or not?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Other: I believe it probably does.

Futher Comments

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