

**Town of Amherst
Ranked Choice Voting Commission Meeting
July 31, 2020
Virtual Meeting
MINUTES**

Complete video is available online:

<https://amherstma.zoom.us/rec/share/4NJkDJH5xDNJY4HOzEHGSLwdDoq1aaa813BMq6JbzhSOD2FoH46Laxykw7SoqYcD>

1. Call to order and declaration of a quorum.

Chair Tanya Leise declared the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 2:34 pm.

Members present via Zoom: John Bryan, Jesse Crafts-Finch, Tanya Leise, Ellen Lindsey, Carroll (Rob) Robertson, Peggy Shannon, and Assistant Town Clerk Susan Audette.

Members absent: None.

Others present: Shavena Martin, Town Clerk.

2. Public Comment.

None.

3. Correct and approve minutes from previous meeting.

Voted 5-0-2 to approve minutes as amended.

4. Assess progress and next steps to complete committee's work.

Discussed that our own committee's projected deadlines have changed due to Covid-19 and not being able to meet. Agreed that we should try to get answers sooner rather than later, and the need to speak with Lauren Goldberg, the town's legal counsel. Will put together a list of questions that we have in order to move forward, one of which is how to handle recount elections as well as hand-counted ballots.

In light of the ranked choice voting ballot question that will appear in November, if it passes, discussed ways to incorporate the outcome/language into our own report and other ways to utilize the State level education for our own implementation in Amherst. We recognize that the result of Question 2 in November may impact town decisions, for example, on choice of new voting equipment and on what needs to be in our legislation.

We will move forward with our report by gathering pieces from each contributing committee member, put together, then distribute to members for review. We will target a few sections per each upcoming meeting.

Voted to have our next meeting on August 7, 2020 at 3:00 pm on Zoom.

5. Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance.

None.

6. Adjourn.

VOTED to adjourn at 3:35 pm on July 31, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Audette
Assistant Town Clerk