

**Town of Needham
Select Board
Minutes for Tuesday, January 11, 2022
Needham Town Hall
Powers Hall
and
Via ZOOM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85028317857>**

- 6:00 p.m. Call to Order:
A meeting of the Select Board was convened by Chair Matthew D. Borrelli. Those present were Daniel P. Matthews, Marianne Cooley, Marcus Nelson (via Zoom), Kevin Keane, and Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick. Dave Davison, ATM/Finance, Katie King, ATM/Operations, Myles Tucker, Support Services Manager, and Mary Hunt, Recording Secretary were also in attendance.
- 6:00 p.m. Public Comment Period:
Margerie Spofford, 21 Woodbine Circle, Swap Shop volunteer, gave the Select Board a copy of a petition signed by residents opposed to the Swap Shop closing during the winter months. She said the Swap Shop is a valuable resource for residents and would like the shop to remain open year-round.
- Fabia Bird, 111 Pine Street, Swap Shop volunteer, submitted a letter detailing the activities and outreach of the shop and stated the shop has cooperated and worked successfully with the RTS for over 10 years during snow events. She noted residents need usable items year-round and asked the Select Board reconsider and reinstate year-round, full time hours at the Swap Shop.
- Joe Barrios, Waltham resident and employed in Needham at 29 Franklin Street said he is concerned for the health of customers and himself at his place of business and asked the Select Board consider a mask mandate for interior retail stores.
- 6:11 p.m. Dangerous Dog Hearing:
John Schlittler, Police Chief requested that the Select Board hold a dangerous dog hearing in accordance with M.G.L. c. 140 Section 157 and Town By-law 3.7.5 on a complaint about dogs by the name of “Maya” and “Axel” owned by Diana Rasoul, residing at 233 West St. in Needham.
- Chief Schlittler gave a synopsis of events occurring on October 16, 2021, December 10, 2021, and December 16, 2021. Chief Schlittler stated his concern is the owner does not appear to be taking the issue seriously, considering the repeat nature of the incidents. He noted the owner has been cited multiple times for leash law violations.
- Diana Rasoul-Agha, dog owner, acknowledged the incidents that have happened are wrong. She explained the nature and temperament of her dogs, noting her dogs do not run to attack, but to play. She explained dog pack behavior and how smaller

dogs can become anxious. Ms. Rasoul said Maya is well trained and she never had any issues until she got Axel, who is a puppy. She stated muzzles were ordered after the second incident but had not yet arrived when the third incident occurred.

Mr. Borrelli explained the definition of a dangerous dog under Massachusetts General Law.

Mr. Matthews confirmed the dogs are registered and it is clear Ms. Rasoul cares about her dogs. He noted the dogs personalities but said Ms. Rasoul cannot blame other people or their dogs. Mr. Matthews stated the rules are simple: dog owners are responsible and must keep their dogs under control at all times and leashed in public spaces. He stated if another incident happens, things will get worse.

Discussion ensued on details of the attacks, fencing, and using muzzles.

Mr. Borrelli invited public comment.

Esther Jersurum, 5 Louart Drive (via Zoom) said her dog was the first attacked on October 16, 2021, however noted a previous unreported incident. She concurred with Ms. Rasoul's testimony that Maya did not run to attack until after Axel was brought home. She said the attack was terrifying and since then, she cannot bring her dog to either West Street or Hillside Avenue.

Lisa Madkins, 15 Bobsled Drive read a statement regarding the attack that happened to her on December 10, 2021. She noted she was pulled to the ground and her dog was bitten 10 times and remains visibly traumatized.

Maureen Walsh, 51 Booth Street commented she was charged by Maya and Axel, however the dogs didn't attack her or her dog, but returned to their owner after being called. Ms. Walsh commented on a separate incident she had with another dog, unrelated to this public hearing. She noted the lasting effects on her dog after being bitten and was the reason she recently put her dog down. Ms. Walsh said muzzles must be professionally fit to each dog.

Marissa Badawi, daughter of Ms. Rasoul, 233 West Street acknowledged the incidents that have happened are not ok and apologized to everyone who has been affected. She said her family is genuinely sorry for what has happened and are trying their best to contain the dogs and avoid any additional incidents.

Mr. Matthews suggested Ms. Rasoul consider re-homing Axel.

Ms. Rasoul commented re-homing could be difficult and that she will be scheduling training for the dogs.

Chief Schlittler recommended the dogs be muzzled at all times, attend training, and be leashed. He stated much of these events could have been avoided if the dogs were leashed. He stated his concern for rules being followed.

Discussion ensued on potential remedies, including euthanasia.

Mr. Borrelli said he is confident Ms. Rasoul will follow the rules set by the Select Board.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Select Board vote to determine that the dogs “Maya” and “Axel” residing at 233 West Street in Needham are dangerous dogs.

Second: Ms. Cooley. Unanimously approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

Mr. Nelson suggested a two-week time frame for Ms. Rasoul to report back to the Select Board regarding training and fencing. He said training should happen sooner rather than later, and that Ms. Rasoul must know this is the “last straw.”

Chief Schlittler said Officer Palmer/Animal Control will check in with the owner on a regular basis.

Mr. Matthews suggested the Select Board adopt recommendations made by Chief Schlittler, noting 100% of the responsibility belongs to the owner.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Select Board vote to adopt recommendations made by Police Chief Schlittler regarding the dogs “Maya” and “Axel” including muzzling, behavioral training, containment, and leashing of the dogs.

Second: Mr. Keane. Unanimously approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

Mr. Keane suggested Ms. Rasoul ponder re-homing Axel.

7:06 p.m.

Appointment and Consent Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Select Board vote to approve the Appointments and Consent Agenda as presented.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Marianne Cooley	Climate Action Plan Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2024
2. Kevin Keane	Climate Action Plan Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2024
3. Artie Crocker	Climate Action Plan Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2024
4. Natasha Espada	Climate Action Plan Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2024
5. Sandra Cincotta	Contributory Retirement Board	Term Exp. 1/11/2025
6. Paul Brown	Norfolk County Advisory Board	Term Exp. 6/30/2024
7. Marianne Cooley	Transportation Planning and Review Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2022
8. Kevin Keane	Transportation Planning and Review Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2022
9. Justin McCullen	Transportation Planning and Review Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2022

10. Duncan Allen	Transportation Planning and Review Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2022
11. David Montgomery	Transportation Planning and Review Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2022
12. Robert Rossi	Transportation Planning and Review Committee	Term Exp. 6/30/2022
13. Nikolas Ligris	Zoning Board of Appeals	Term Exp. 6/30/2023

CONSENT AGENDA *=Backup attached

- 1.* **Approve and Sign ARPA Grant Agreement Document between the Town of Needham and Norfolk County. Once the Grant Agreement is executed the Town may submit project applications to the County.**
2. **Certify 2022 ABCC License Renewal Applications**
3. **Accept the following donations made to the Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund: \$250 from Ms. Maryruth Perras, \$3500 from the Sullivan and Company, Inc., and \$400 from Edward and Carol De Lemos.**
4. **Accept the following donation made to the Needham Youth & Family Services Department: \$2,000 from Needham Flag Football to be used towards future programming.**
- 5.* **Approve a request from John Hrones race coordinator for the Needham Track Club, Great Bear Run to hold a road race in Needham. The event is scheduled for Sunday, May 22, 2022, 10:30am. The event and route have been approved by the following departments: Fire, Police, DPW, Park & Recreation.**
- 6.* **Approve a request from Christopher George race coordinator from the Sean D. Biggs Memorial Foundation, BIGGSteps 5K to hold a race in Needham. The event is scheduled for Sunday, November 13, 2022 rain date Sunday, November 20, 2022. The event and route have been approved by the following departments: Fire, Police, DPW, Park & Recreation.**
- 7.* **Approve and sign Water & Sewer Abatement #1316**
8. **Move that the application from Ruth E. Kenney for the deferral of water and sewer charges against the property 54 Hawthorn Ave, Needham is approved.**
9. **Move that the application from Letafat Sabokrooh for the deferral of water and sewer charges against the property 105 Blake Street, Needham is approved.**
- 10.* **Approve CY2022 mileage reimbursement rate.**

Second: Ms. Cooley. Unanimously approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

7:07p.m.

COVID Update:

Daniel Gutekanst, Superintendent Needham Public Schools, Timothy McDonald, Director of Health and Human Services, and Tiffany Zike, Assistant Director of Public Health (via Zoom) provided an update regarding COVID-19.

Ms. Zike presented a PowerPoint presentation titled “COVID-19 Update,” dated January 10, 2022. She commented on the current surge in cases, as well as the 14-day average percent positivity rate, incident rate, percent positivity, and vaccination rates across Massachusetts. Also discussed were the number of cases in

Massachusetts by vaccination and booster status, as well as the number of breakthrough cases by age, hospitalizations, and deaths.

Mr. Borrelli commented on mask mandates and asked Mr. McDonald for the reasoning why Needham is not requiring masks?

Mr. McDonald said there was an indoor mask mandate before the high vaccination rates in Needham. He reiterated the best thing people can do is to get vaccinated and get a booster. He said the Board of Health did consider a mask mandate, but decided masks will only be required for patrons and staff in certain settings where the highest risks are concentrated. He said the message is people must consider and manage their own risk for themselves and their families, noting it would be difficult for the Board of Health to manage a mask mandate.

Discussion ensued on enforcement of mask mandates in high-risk areas before and during the surge, particularly at restaurants.

Dr. Gutekanst commented COVID-19 is in our schools and is changing, with management now the focus for the foreseeable future. He acknowledged schools reopened safely, students are learning, and student vaccination rates are very high. He said students and staff have been amazing, cooperative, and patient with all the health and safety protocols. He said other measures including ventilation remain a “work in progress” and a challenge. Dr. Gutekanst said since returning from holiday break, staff attendance has averaged 90% and 87% for students, reiterating the importance for children to be in school and staff to maintain an “all hands-on deck” approach. He commented attendance has been limited at some athletic and music events, but events are still happening. Dr. Gutekanst commented that 10,000 KN95 masks have been purchased for staff, suggesting families consider taking cloth masks away from children and replacing them with surgical or KN95 masks. Dr. Gutekanst said 22,000 COVID rapid test kits are currently being procured to provide families with a health resource that is increasingly scarce, to help strengthen prevention efforts in schools, aid in the identification of positive cases, and build confidence in this time of uncertainty when many families feel they have no control. He said the expense is large, noting the Town Manager has identified some federal COVID funds that can go towards the purchase of the test kits. He noted the State of Massachusetts will also purchase test kits that could impact the number of kits required by Needham. Dr. Gutekanst reiterated that if someone feels sick, they should stay home. He thanked all the nurses and staff who are working to implement many changes, and commented that the collaborative effort of teachers, administrators, secretaries, nutrition service workers, van drivers, custodians, IT workers, students, and families, is why Needham is “where we are.”

Mr. Borrelli commented that getting children back in school has been a struggle around the country. He noted Dr. Gutekanst’s great relationship with the teacher’s unions and staff, noting the team effort has really paid off. He also concurred with

Mr. McDonald's assessment of people managing their own risk, while protecting the most vulnerable.

Discussion ensued on at-home test kits, pool testing, "test and stay," tracking test results, the number of cases in young children, and the use of KN95 masks.

Mr. Borrelli concluded COVID-19 will be with us and needs to be managed as best we can. He commented on the possible purchase of rapid test kits, saying a purchase must align with what the state of Massachusetts is doing to use the town's resources in the best way possible.

8:02 p.m.

American Rescue Plan Funding Reallocation Proposal:

Dr. Gutekanst and Ms. Fitzpatrick discussed with the Board a proposal to purchase at-home COVID-19 testing kits for all staff and public-school students.

Dr. Gutekanst acknowledged the proposal to purchase test kits is not inexpensive, as the request is for \$230,000. He said the test kits will have a broad impact on school/town staff, students, and families. Dr. Gutekanst said this is the first time he has come to the Select Board with this type of request, acknowledging the circumstances are unique. He said the test kits can be an important, essential tool.

Discussion ensued on the use of the ARPA fund, its effect on other town funding requests, the possibility of receiving test kits from the state of Massachusetts, and the intent of ARPA funds.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Select Board vote to approve a reallocation of \$230,000 from the American Rescue Plan Funding to provide for the acquisition of at-home COVID-19 testing kits for staff and students.

Second: Mr. Nelson. Unanimously approved 5 to 0 by roll call vote.

Ms. Cooley expressed her concern for the purchase, reiterating children must remain in school and she is glad the town is participating in the "test and stay" program. She commented, however, people must understand the layers of protection starting with vaccination, masking, ventilation, and testing. She reiterated if someone has symptoms they should not go to school or work.

Mr. Borrelli shared some of Ms. Cooley's concerns, but acknowledged there is some validity in the cost to keep schools open.

Mr. Nelson asked if the tests could be used in other parts of the community?

Dr. Gutekanst said if Needham schools find it has more tests than necessary, they could be offered to the community.

8:22 p.m.

The Board recessed for five minutes.

8:27 p.m.

Behavioral Health Update:

Timothy McDonald, Director of Health & Human Services and Sara Shine, Director of Youth & Family Services Updated the Board on efforts to meet increasing mental and behavioral health needs across the community.

A PowerPoint presentation was viewed.

Ms. Shine commented on the mental health crisis faced by Needham and other communities. She commented that the focus of the Youth and Family Services Department includes clinical services, programming, and community collaborations. Ms. Shine commented on the most recent MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey 2018, saying depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation are increasing and concerning. She said pockets of a community that are more affected, such as minorities and members of the LGBTQ community. Ms. Shine agreed with Dr. Gutekanst's earlier comments that children need to be in school where teachers, guidance staff, and friends are of support besides the family. Ms. Shine commented on barriers to care, local trends, the response to COVID-19, and ARPA fund requests. She said, locally, there has been a tremendous increase in the acuity in clients, new referrals, and calls at a rate that the department cannot manage, noting approximately 35 people are on the waitlist for services. She said the ARPA request includes a request for a full-time clinical staff member for a period of 24 to 30 months, outside contacts with mental health experts, and funding to support enhanced community education and awareness.

Mr. Borrelli thanked Ms. Shine for the presentation saying the data is heartbreaking, along with the collateral damage from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Discussion ensued on early screenings, hiring a full-time clinical staff member, and the waitlist for people to get help.

The Board thanks Ms. Shine for her work and the presentation.

8:45 p.m.

Alcohol Hearing - Modification, Suspension, or Revocation of Alcohol License - Poet King Restaurant Group, LLC d/b/a Hungry Coyote. The hearing was translated into Spanish and Spanish into English for the benefit of all parties. Janet Medina, Spanish Interpreter.

Leona Leon Turano, Manager Poet King Restaurant Group, LLC d/b/a Hungry Coyote and Janet Medina, translator for Ms. Leon appeared before the Select Board to discuss the possible modification, suspension, or revocation of the alcohol beverage license issued to Poet King Restaurant Group, LLC d/b/a Hungry Coyote.

All discussions were translated into Spanish by Ms. Medina.

Mr. Borrelli explained facts of the case will be discussed first, with questions being asked of the licensee, then Board discussion will take place. He noted the following records are part of tonight's proceeding:

- a. Notice of Hearing dated January 5, 2022, M.G.L. c.138, section 23 and section 64 and 204 Cmr 2.05 (2) and 204 Cmr 2.05 (8).
- b. Notice of Hearing dated January 5, 2022, M.G.L. c.140, section 9 and Select Board Policies and Procedures For Common Victuallers sections 2.1 and 3.2
- c. Summary of Suspension Order dated December 1, 2021, M.G.L. C.111, section 30 and 105 Cmr 590.014 (A)
- d. A copy of the Public Health Division's file containing a timeline of inspections, inspection reports, communications with the Hungry Coyote Restaurant
- e. Notice of Hearing dated January 7, 2022, M.G.L. c.138 section 26 and 64.
- f. Copy of the video of the Board of Health's January 5, 2022 hearing.

Mr. McDonald said the Board of Health held a hearing January 5, 2022 to consider the matter of Hungry Coyote continuing to operate without a permit and for the reasons behind the decision not to renew the permit for Hungry Coyote, which expired December 31, 2021. He said the manager on record, from a food department perspective, Francisco Mendez indicated he is working towards compliance.

Discussion ensued on the Public Health's Department order for Hungry Coyote to close on January 1, 2022 and testimony by Mr. McDonald that the Hungry Coyote remained open after January 1, 2022. It was noted Mr. Mendez subsequently met with Town Counsel, Mr. McDonald, and staff of the Public Health Department where he indicated he has made significant progress towards rectifying the areas deficient. Mr. McDonald confirmed an inspection will be held tomorrow, January 12, 2022, and it is hoped all of the deficiencies will be corrected and he could receive a new food permit.

Mr. Borrelli asked for comments from Leona Leon, manager, Poet King Restaurant Group.

Ms. Leon said she now understands the restaurant should have been closed and that the laws of the Department of Public Health must be followed. She commented on progress the restaurant has made toward compliance and apologized and asked for forgiveness.

Discussion ensued with Christopher Heap, Town Counsel asking Ms. Leon several questions about the amount of time she spends at the restaurant, her recent absence from the restaurant, her responsibilities as manager, when she became aware of Town's Order of Suspension, and the role of Matthew Saiia, owner. Attorney Heap

also asked Mr. McDonald to describe the violations and the sequence of events of the inspections.

Mr. Borrelli asked Ms. Leon if she was T.I.P.S. certified? Ms. Leon said “yes”. Mr. McDonald also confirmed Mr. Mendez was at the T.I.P.S training course the Town held on Monday, January 10, 2022.

Mr. Borrelli asked for Board comments.

Mr.Keane asked Ms. Leon, “Where is Matthew Saiia, owner, and why did he not attend tonight’s hearing?”

Ms. Leon said Mr. Saiia is attending a funeral.

Mr. Matthews told Ms. Leon as manager she must assure that the restaurant will remain closed until the food permit is reactivated. He reiterated to Ms. Leon that the liquor license for the Hungry Coyote may be suspended. He asked Ms. Leon if she will respect a decision by the Select Board and make sure no sale, delivery, or consumption of alcohol at the restaurant takes place until such time when the license is reactivated?

Ms. Leon said “I give you my word.”

Discussion ensued regarding the restaurant’s insurance carrier, the percentage of business related to the sale of alcohol, and clarification on the hours per week Ms. Leon spends at the restaurant.

Mr. Matthews pointed out some questions are related to the way the business is organized. He referred to the original hearing in April 2019 when Mr. Saiia, Ms. Leon, and Mr. Mendez spoke with the Select Board, noting Mr. Saiia assured the Board that “we” (the applicant) accept full responsibility and accountability to make sure the business runs properly, according to the law. He noted the Board voted to approve the licenses based on the representations, pointing out that records in the Select Board’s office do not match records in the Board of Health’s office. He noted Ms. Leon is responsible for the restaurant, but the business organization is the responsibility of Mr. Saiia. Mr. Matthews pointed out Mr.Saiia was on notice for tonight’s hearing, but was not in attendance. Mr. Matthews asked if Attorney Heep or Town Manager Fitzpatrick had any other information for the record to document their concerns and/or to guide the Select Board.

Attorney Heep said corporate filings on file with the Secretary of the Commonwealth. He noted the unusual corporate structure and out-of-date corporate filings. He said copies are available.

Mr. Borrelli said the Town wants businesses to succeed, however, the rules must be followed, and it is a position of trust to have a liquor license. He said the facts

he has heard tonight support violations. He reiterated it is not clear how the restaurant is run, where the owner is, and the overall operations. He suggested reconsidering all licensing. He thanked Ms. Leon for her testimony and asked if the Board had any additional comments.

Mr. Nelson said he is troubled by the accountability and answers to some questions. He concurred with Mr. Borrelli to take another look at the corporate structure.

Motion by Ms. Cooley that the Select Board finds sufficient evidence that Poet King Restaurant Group, LLC., d/b/a The Hungry Coyote, located at 1185 Highland Avenue, Needham and its licensed manager violated and so finds:

- 1. 205 Cmr. 2.05 (2) permitting an illegality to occur on premises with failure to comply with the Summary Suspension Order of the Town of Needham Public Health Division dated December 31, 2021.**
- 2. 205 Cmr. 2.05 (8) maintaining the premises in an unsanitary manner as detailed in the Summary Suspension Order of the Town of Needham Public Health Division dated December 31, 2021.**
- 3. M.G. L. c. 138 section 12 operating without a licensed manager.**

Second: Mr. Matthews. Unanimously approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

Ms. Cooley said she is concerned after hearing testimony as to whether Ms. Leon is on premises a sufficient amount of time to be considered the licensed manager.

Mr. Matthews acknowledged the importance of the business and the hard work of Ms. Leon and Mr. Mendez, noting Ms. Leon's expression of remorse about the violations and non-compliance of the order. However, he stated, the pledge to abide by lawful orders of Town agents, the Board of Health, and the Select Board is important, and the future of the business will be better if it can make it through a difficult stretch in the near future. He reiterated the Select Board wants to see licensees succeed, but they must follow the law. He stated the fault of Matthew Saiia, owner, regarding his commitments and obligations requires action to set the structure of the business on a better course.

Discussion ensued and the Select Board considered possible actions on the violations, including suspension of the license.

Mr. Borrelli suggested Mr. Saiia, owner and the licensee appear before the Select Board with a filing demonstrating that they are capable. He said a full discussion is necessary, as he is doubtful of Ms. Leon to serve as manager.

Mr. Matthews reiterated much of the work that needs to be done is the responsibility and authority of Mr. Saiia. He noted that when paperwork is in order and the rules are followed, there are no misunderstandings. He suggested that Mr. Saiia should get an attorney to help restructure the plan in which to operate, and to make sure all

records and paperwork is consistent in the Health Department and Select Board files. He suggested suspending the licenses for a period of time, until paperwork is in order.

Mr. Borrelli concurred with suspending the license for 30 days or indefinitely until documentation is received supporting Ms. Leon's ability to hold the position as manager, or a change in manager is made.

Motion by Ms. Cooley that the Select Board pursuant to M.G.L. c. 138 sections 23 and 64 forthwith suspend's Poet King Restaurant Group LLC., d/b/a The Hungry Coyote, located at 1185 Highland Avenue, Needham as follows:

1. Suspend the license forthwith with the term of the suspension to run for 30 days commencing when the Needham Board of Health reinstates the licensee's food establishment permit for violating 205 CMR. 2.05 (2) permitting an illegality to occur on the premises to wit failure to comply with a Summary Suspension Order of the Town of Needham Public Health Division dated December 31, 2021 and 205 CMR. 2.05 (8) maintaining the premises in an unsanitary manner as detailed in the Summary Suspension Order.

and

2. Indefinitely suspend the liquor license until such time as the licensee submits documentation supporting Leona Leon's ability to hold the position of licensed manager, or until such time the licensee submits an application for a change in license manager to the Select Board and the Select Board approves the licensee in that role and the licensee submits all required corporate filings to the Secretary of State's corporations division provided, however, that in no case shall the license be suspended for a period shorter than 30 days from when the Needham Board of Health reinstates the licensee's food establishment permit.

Second: Mr. Nelson. Unanimously approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

Motion by Ms. Cooley that the Select Board vote to authorize the Town Manager to draft and send notice of the Select Board's decision to the licensee with a copy to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission and Poet King Restaurant Group as the owner.

Second: Mr. Nelson. Unanimously approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

Mr. Borrelli thanked Ms. Medina, translator and Ms. Leon. He wished The Hungry Coyote the best success once everything's in order.

10:20 p.m.

Town Manager:

Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager spoke with the Board regarding 2 items:

1. FY2023 Budget Consultation

Ms. Fitzpatrick provided the Board with an update on Departmental Performance Improvement Budget Requests and Financial Warrant Articles. She said the budget is due at the end of the month and recommendations will be made to the Select Board at the next Select Board meeting on January 25, 2022. Ms. Fitzpatrick commented on department spending requests and financial warrant articles.

2. Open Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Ms. Fitzpatrick reviewed the Preliminary List of Warrant Articles for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting dated January 11, 2022 and asked the Board to vote to open the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Select Board vote to open the warrant for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting.

Second: Ms. Cooley. Unanimously approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

10:27 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Goal Statement Revision

The Board discussed the revised FY 2022-2023 Goal Statement. Mr. Borrelli asked for a motion to adopt the revised FY 2022-2023 Goal Statement.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Select Board vote to adopt the FY 2022-2023 Statement of Goals.

Second: Ms. Cooley. Unanimously approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

2. Board Discussion

Mr. Matthews commented on the creation of “study committees” and the composition of such committees. He suggested committee compositions supervised by the Select Board should be changed so that the appointee can either be a member of the committee or a person recommended by that committee. He noted the reasons for the change.

Ms. Cooley reported NUARI met last night and reviewed all the committees and community organizations who have adopted or endorsed the NUARI principals and vision for Needham. She said NUARI also commented that committees and organizations who have not taken up the matter will be asked how they are planning to support the work of NUARI and how the NUARI committee can be of help to them in furthering the goals.

10:39 p.m. Adjourn:

Motion by Mr. Nelson that the Select Board vote to adjourn the Select Board meeting of Tuesday, January 11, 2022.

Second: Ms. Cooley. Unanimously approved 5-0 by roll call vote.

The next Select Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 25, 2022.

A list of all documents used at this Select Board meeting is available at:

<http://www.needhamma.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=99&Type=&ADID=>