

ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF NONVOTING TAXPAYERS
Minutes of Public meeting 10 A.M., SATURDAY, July 13, 2024 in person (Trailer Room A and via Zoom)

1. Attending members: Kathy Baird, Lou Bassano, Gary Beller, Gene Briskman, Patti Deuster, Lynn Filipski, Bill Gardner, Don Green, Peter Halle, Peter Kahn, Donna Martino, Steve Perelman, and Scott Ulm. Member absent: Pam Suan.
2. Chair Peter Halle convened the meeting at 10:00 am and read the Virtual Meeting Script confirming a quorum was present.
3. The Agenda for today's meeting was moved for approval, seconded and passed unanimously.
4. Approval of revised minutes from the June 22, 2024 meeting was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.
5. Peter H. introduced Guest Speaker Joe Grause – Chair, Town Council Study Committee who provided an overview of his background, explained their charge based on the approved town warrant article to consider alternative forms of government to replace the current Town Meeting-Town Manager/Select Board form. Many believe Nantucket has outgrown its current form of government which slow to act and is not representative of the diversity of the voting public. Other available forms include Representative Town Meeting and Mayoral and an elected/paid Town Council (legislative) – Town Manager (Executive) which is the one being drafted into a new town charter. This form of government offers greater participation from non-voting taxpayers and the number of councilors and whether they would be at-large or representative has yet to be defined. Joe's written overview that he shared with members, is Attachment 1 to these minutes. Questions from in-person, remote members and attendees were asked and answered.
6. Election of Slate of ACNVT Officers (Peter Halle – Chair, Peter Kahn – Vice Chair, Kathy Baird – Secretary) was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.
7. Donna Martino requested feedback from members on the ACNVT role in a future TCSC form of government charter. In addition to what Peter H. had circulated for proposed charter language (Attachment 2), it was agreed to propose an appointed or elected non-voting NVT representative on the Town Council with other suggestions including a process to include NVT member appointment on town committees and a defined ability for NVTs to propose legislation to Town Council.
8. Special Town Meeting (STM) STR article discussion. Peter H. submitted letters to the Select Board STR Subcommittee stating the anti-discrimination stance of the ACNVT and support for the compromise article (now Article 1) and to the Planning Board. He also appeared at the STR Committee's Public Comment session to support the Compromise proposal. Peter K will represent the ACNVT at the July 15 Planning Board Meeting. A summary of the July 11 ZBA meeting was also discussed. According to the Inky, the ZBA Board Members vote d 4-1 to authorize Legal Counsel to draft a decision interpreting "Accessory Use" in harmony with Nantucket Rental traditions in favor of the Grape and Keith families who acquired and used their properties as second homes and also rented them. It appears that the ZBA approach is to recognize traditional second home ownership to include the right to rent as an accessory use. This is distinguished

from the acquisition of residential property with the purpose to rent, not as a second home. The ZBA will consider the draft at its next meeting where these concepts and distinction will be more clearly articulated.

9. Lynn provided an update on a new NCL study commission looking to extend the existing quiet time rules for machinery and tools to the whole island. The ACNVT voted to support it. ACNVT Members have also noted that there is a lack of regulation of amplified noise, particularly in public places. Lynn noted that a proposal to ban amplified noise on public property without a permit would need to be an addition to the existing noise bylaw. The Committee will pursue better amplified noise regulations.
10. Lynn also reported her research into curtailing traffic by trucks. There is no present path to do that. Moreover, if truck traffic was limited or prohibited, the Island would not get the goods and services it requires. Peter H. recommended attendance at the NCL Community Forum on July 11.
11. The next ACNVT meeting will be held via Hybrid/Zoom in the Meeting Trailer (121 Pleasant Street) at 10am Saturday August 3, where Libby Gibson will be our guest speaker. Police Chief Jody Kasper is our confirmed speaker for August 24.
12. Motion to adjourn was seconded and passed unanimously at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Baird, Secretary

Attachment 1 – [Town Council Study Committee Presentation](#)

Attachment 2 – Proposed ACNVT Charter Language

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What is the ACNVT Mission, and how might that change if Nantucket Adopts a Town Council form of Government?

ACNVT Mission spelled out in Town Bylaws –

The ACNVT **Mission** is spelled out in the Nantucket Bylaws. The ACNVT enabling bylaw is posted on our Town Website:

Town of Nantucket, MA / Division 1: Bylaws / Part I: Administrative Legislation / Committees

Article III Advisory Committee of Nonvoting Taxpayers

[Adopted 5-7-1991 ATM by Art. 43, approved 9-6-1991]

There shall be an Advisory Committee of Nonvoting Taxpayers [ACNVT] consisting of 15 members, appointed by the Town Administrator [or an equivalent position], with initial appointments, or reappointments of five members for three-year terms, five members for two-year terms, and five members for one-year terms. As the terms expire, all succeeding appointments shall be for three-year terms which shall continue the staggered pattern. In addition, two alternate members shall be appointed annually by the Town Administrator to serve in case of absence, inability to act or conflict of interest on the part of any regular member or, in the event of a vacancy, until such vacancy is filled. Whenever needed, members may be appointed by the Town Administrator to fill an unexpired term. The quorum is established as a majority of members appointed and serving.

§ 11-14 Duties.

The Committee will make recommendations to the ~~Select Board~~ **Town Council, Committees, Agencies and Officers** on issues of concern to the nonresident taxpayers. Section 11- 14.

ACNVT Recommendations.

The issues and concerns raised in the recommendations of the ACNVT shall be given great weight during the deliberations by the government entity to which they are addressed.

In all cases the Nantucket government entity is required to make a decision, the rationale for the decision shall be made on the record and articulate the reasons why the ACNVT does or does not offer persuasive advice under the circumstances.

This is meant to stimulate conversation in future meetings of the ACNVT with regard to what its role may be in a Town Council form of Government.