GTF: Charter Sub-Task Force Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February16, 2023

Attendees: Ray Seigfried, Steve Benigni, Barbara Macklem, and Lynda Kolski

The meeting called to order by Ray at 7:33 Buzz Ware

The minutes from the January meeting were reviewed with corrections and approved. Christopher Griffiths Esq. amendment memorandum was reviewed regarding an addition to the Budget Committee section 8. The recommendation was to provide authority to Town Assembly the right to modify committee budgets [transfer money from one committee to another if needed] and the power to receive and spend grants, donations, contributions, or bequests in a manner prescribed by an ordinance. Ray stated that the charter needed to provide authority to Town Assemble for the Village to act on these budget items. In addition, it would be up to the Town Assembly to prescribe the process and manner of how an ordinance would execute this. Lynda disagreed and said donations to the village belong to all residents and should be spent only by a referendum vote. Grants are entirely different, since those funds can only be spent based on the grant's parameters. She also said she believed that since each committee's budget was determined by a referendum, it could not be changed by a town assembly vote. If a committee has a legitimate reason for going over budget, such as more than anticipated snow removal, than that should be handled with contingency funds. The need for a legal opinion was raised several times during the discussion. It was recommended that our lawyer provide an opinion about what should be in the charter and what should be left for ordinance and resolution. Ray will schedule Mr. Griffiths for our March meeting to discuss this and other issues.
The group then reviewed section 11 powers and ordinance. In the first paragraph, third sentence Steve asked to have this checked by our lawyer. There were a few recommended modifications regarding providing electronic access rather than just a written copy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52