# Town of Groton, MA Electronic Voting (EV) Study Committee (EVSC)

# Minutes of the Meeting of September 29, 2022

## Opening

Location: via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mr. Petropoulos.

Present: Michael Bouchard, Michael Manugian, Jack Petropoulos.

Absent: Rob Anctil, Carolyn Perkins

Guests: Judy Anderson

Mr. Petropoulos announced that the meeting was being recorded and all members verbally announced their presence.

## Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

## Approval of Minutes

Because only two attendees of the September 22 meeting were present at this meeting, the Committee agreed to postpone review of those minutes until the next meeting. ACTION: Mr. Petropoulos: Add an item to the next meeting agenda to review the September 22 minutes with the September 29 minutes.

## Vendor recommendations

The Committee is comfortable with either Meridian or Option Technologies. The Committee decided to defer voting on whether to recommend a particular vendor until more members were present.

## Review Public Hearing Presentation

The Committee reviewed Mr. Bouchard’s initial draft presentation for the Public Hearing and Town Meeting. Mr. Bouchard will incorporate appropriate suggestions and produce a second draft. The Committee will discuss the contents of an informational booklet for Town Meeting at next week’s meeting. ACTION: Mr. Petropoulos: Create an agenda item for the next Committee meeting to discuss contents of the Town Meeting informational packet. ACTION: Mr. Bouchard: Send the updated presentation draft to the Committee.

## Review proposed policies and distribution

The Committee reviewed the draft document created by Mr. Petropoulos. After discussion, the Committee decided not to use this document.

## Discuss possible EV demo at Fall Town Meeting

Mr. Petropoulos suggested that the Committee present a live demonstration of Electronic Voting as part of the Town Meeting presentation. Clickers would be distributed to a sample of Town Meeting voters and one or more sample votes would be held. This would allow all attendees to see the process in action. He asked if the two vendors, Meridia and Option Technologies, would be willing to run such a demo. Option Technologies declined. Mr. Petropoulos and Mr. Bouchard attended a video meeting with a representative of Meridia to discuss whether a demonstration of this sort was feasible and if Meridia would be willing to provide equipment and run the demo. As a result of the video meeting, Mr. Petropoulos and Mr. Bouchard felt that this was possible. Mr. Manugian requested that a similar video conference be set up for the full Committee. ACTION: Mr. Petropoulos: Set up video meeting with Meridia and the full Committee, Town Clerk, IT Manager, and Town Moderator so that all could understand how the vendor would manage such a live Town Meeting demo. ACTION: Mr. Petropoulos: Ask the Town Moderator can have an additional 10 minutes of presentation time for a demo at Town Meeting.

## Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

The next meeting of this Committee will be on Thursday October 6, 2022 at 6:30 pm via Zoom, to be posted by Mr. Bouchard on the Town of Groton website with the meeting agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Manugian, Clerk