

PROPERTY TAX EQUITY REVIEW COMMITTEE
Minutes of November 12, 2003

Members Present: Steven Wishner, Michael DuCros, Dave Costello, Bill Maloney, Marilyn Goodrich, Claire Schlosser, Ralph Tyler, Basil Pallone, Mark Collins, Susan Iuliano, Karen Darmer, Bill Sheehan, Paul Pakos Tara Reed, Beth Farrell, David Berry Andy Schwarz, David Levington

Ex Officio Members: Kirsten Roopenian, Larry O'Brien

Meeting came to order at 7:32 p.m.

1. News was related to committee regarding the death of Edward Mann, husband of PTERC member Esther Mann. A card was passed around at the meeting to sign.
2. Public Comment: Three citizens addressed the committee:
 - Ñ Ursula Lyons read a letter she sent to the general PTERC
 - Ñ Robin Gunderson thanked the committee for its columns and hard work
 - Ñ Adam Balough proposed an idea of marrying CPA dollars with senior tax relief.
3. Minutes of November 7 were passed with amendments.
4. Michael DuCros reported the status of a survey to be distributed to seniors in Sudbury. It is ready to submit to the Steering Committee. An independent 3rd party will be used to ensure the confidentiality of the survey. This may cost up to \$1500
5. Tara Nolan reported on the Co-Chairs' meeting with the Selectmen. They are hopeful to provide an interim report by December 1 to the BOS. The Assessor's Office will provide details of a surcharge program and an exemption program.
6. The PTERC was directed to the evening's agenda to review the process for developing the Report Outline.
7. Paul Pakos gave an overview on a 2% Burden Shift in applied to all residential homeowners.
8. The following motions were made and voted on:

MOTION: made by Tara Reed --The PTERC will suggest to the Board of Selectmen that the Selectmen require any proposed program approved at Town Meeting have such approval contingent on a further approval by a majority ballot vote. Passed -- 15 yea's; 1 nay; 2 abstain

MOTION: made by Basil Pallone -- The cost of the senior relief program proposed by the PTERC to the individual tax payer should not be capped. Passed -- 16 yea's; 2 nay's

MOTION: made by Ralph Tyler --PTERC will use the same income and asset test used by people to exempt from CPA w/ the addition that a home can not be worth more than 1.25% over the median assessed home value. Passed -- 16 yea's; 1 nay; 1 abstain

MOTION: made by Andy Schwartz that Commercial taxpayers will be included in any tax increase or surcharge with the same percentages applying to the commercial tax base. Passed -- 15 yea's; 2 nay's; 1 abstain

MOTION: made by Andy Schwarz -- A qualification criteria will be taxes must exceed 10% of income as defined by the CPA definition. Passed -- 16 yea's; 2 nay's

MOTION: made by Tara Reed -- The PTERC recommends that the Selectmen not avail themselves of their current capability to institute a town wide residential exemption program. Passed -- 17 yea's; 1 abstain.

9. The PTERC continued to discuss the sliding scale benefit as opposed to a flat benefit.

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Beth Farrell, Recording Secretary.