

PROPERTY TAX EQUITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Minutes for August 26, 2003

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Members Present: Beth Farrell, Dave Costello, Arletta Cioffari, Marilyn Goodrich, Bill Maloney, John Nikula, Dave Levington, Tara Reed, Susan Iuliano, Karen Darmer, Steven Wishner, Bill Sheehan, Michael DuCros, Ivan Lubash, Claire Schlosser, David Berry, Mark Collins

Meeting came to order at 7:38 p.m.

1. Meeting was opened to the public for questions and comments. There were none.

2. The PTERC minutes for the July 29, 2003 and August 12, 2003 minutes were approved unanimously, with amendments. Beth Farrell, the Recording Secretary, said for the duration of PTERC, draft minutes would be emailed within 5 working days. Members could print out and make comments, to be offered at the next PTERC meeting. Final minutes would not be sent to individual members, but would be posted on the website.

3. Report from Subcommittee C:

Susan Iuliano, chairperson of Sub. C, reported that Paul Pakos had developed a tool to measure tax burden shifts. While there may be deficiencies within the model, such as the lack of asset data, should Sub. C proceed forward using the model?

Some PTERC members raised the idea of looking at wealth, rather than income; and the need to look at the amount of administrative overhead with the different proposed programs.

Ms. Iuliano also said that if the PTERC model resembles a program already in existence, it may have a better chance flowing through the legislature.

4. Report from Subcommittee A:

Arletta Cioffari, chairperson of Sub. A, reports that all tasks had been completed and they were compiling a final report to be distributed to PTERC members before the Sept. 9 meeting.

5. Report from Subcommittee B:

Claire Schlosser, chairperson of Sub. B, reported that Sudbury resident, Alan Gordon, who holds a Ph.D. in Statistics, had attended the last Sub. B meeting. His statistical analysis of net migration in Sudbury was that there were:

large decreases in the 20-29 year old population

increases in the 30-50 year olds

net migration out of Sudbury in the 50-54 age bracket, and

that Sudbury was typical of a highly settled town from post-WWII

Ms. Schlosser continued that Sub. B was finishing this week and a report would be presented at the next full PTERC meeting on Sept. 9.

6. Co-chairperson David Levington asked each subcommittee to include their conclusions and/or recommendations based on each subcommittees findings. The larger committee would then choose which to adopt. Mr. Levington also discussed the final proposal having a “needs component.”

Other PTERC members discussed longevity requirements, if the PTERC proposal should piggy-back other tax deferral programs, and what the tone of the PTERC proposal should be.

7. The Department of Revenue can give data regarding the Circuit Breaker. They can give tax return “line data” for the 01776 zip code.

8. It was discussed that the Communication Committee's next column should be published prior to presenting to the Board of Selectmen, summarizing findings. It was also agreed that a small article publicizing PTERC's September 9th full meeting should be published in the next Town Crier issue.

9. Co-chairperson Tara Reed read a letter written by a Frost Farm resident, who was hopeful that PTERC would be mindful of Frost Farm residents' situations. Residents of Frost Farm had signed a petition opposing Article 54 and House Bill 3909, as their particular type of housing had been excluded from that Home Rule Petition.

10. The next two PTERC meetings will be held at the Fairbank Senior Center. Members were asked to bring the soon-to-be emailed availability calendars with them, completed.

11. A handout of the proposed reorganization of the subcommittees was distributed to be discussed on September 9th.

12. PTERC agreed to meet at 7 p.m. on September 9, 2003, due to the long list of agenda items

13. Sudbury Assessor Maureen Hafner has offered to come and speak to PTERC or to just answer questions.

The next full meeting of PTERC will be Tuesday, September 9, 2003 at 7 p.m. at the Fairbank Senior Center.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Beth Farrell, Recording Secretary.