

Nov 12, 2024

Dear Editor,

I am no alarmist, but I am now alarmed and suggest the Select Board should be also. The Ad Hoc Building Committee “AHBC” deliberations and process have been hijacked by JUST THREE PEOPLE who refuse to accept the Town Meeting decisions of more than 600 voters. Let that sink in. The Committee’s work is continually disrupted, and the DPW project which we the voters want is at risk of being derailed by an unreasonable and bullying scheme to promote Bob Weinstein’s ambition to locate the DPW on the Route 6 greenway.

Worse, we now see a consistent star chamber where citizen volunteers are routinely and falsely abused and accused by town authorities in a manner so uncivil, aggressive, and slanderous that it cannot be ignored or tolerated any more. Watch the [Nov 7th AHBC meeting](#) — you will see vile and outrageous behavior and escalating incivility, fabrications and falsifications.

Ring-leader Weinstein refuses to abide by the decision of more than 600 voters. *Why* is a mystery, but the more serious question is ***why is the Select Board allowing it?*** They have the authority and necessity to right this ship. Here are four steps they can take immediately to do just that.

First, the Select Board must clearly and unequivocally settle the DPW site location at Town Hall Road as the primary site to develop. The voters thought we already did but now **the SB** must, too.

Second, the SB can and **must** remove Mr. Weinstein as AHBC liaison and ensure he cannot participate on any other committee to further undermine Town Meeting votes. He exceeds his role as liaison: he deliberates, drives and dominates deliberations and with increasingly disturbed and unacceptable vitriol. Against Town policy and charter, he advances his own agenda in **the SB’s** name. End it now.

Third, the SB can and should rescind Mr. Panessiti’s appointment to AHBC. As the most recent FinCom meeting shows, he cannot participate in a committee making recommendations with financial impact to FinCom and also deliberate on the merits of those matters while serving on FinCom.

Lastly, the Town Manager is complicit; we are already aware of some recent, dubious actions on this topic. It’s time to hold Mr. Tangeman accountable.

These steps are necessary so the AHBC can get back to work and deliver a DPW in accordance with the voters’ mandate to locate it at Town Hall Hill, not Route 6. Let’s respect and honor the overwhelming decisions of town voters. It is the only path to regain our rapidly diminishing trust.

Dennis O’Brien
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