

- Warrant Committee Minutes
- April 25, 2011
- Belmont High School, 6:00 p.m.
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- Attendees: Chair Allison, Members: Bruschi, Epstein, Libenson, Sarno, Baghdady, Callanan, Lynch, Millane, Grob, McHugh, Slap, Smith, Manjikian
- Absent: Becker, Dash
- Other attendees: Hagg
- After BOS meeting adjourned, both Ralph Jones and Angelo Firenze joined the WC meeting at 6:35 p.m.
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- The purpose of the meeting was to review and vote on upcoming Town Meeting articles.
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- Library vote – Member Sarno abstained because he wasn't clear on the details/fleshed out regarding the time element etc and the vote sets things in motion. Member Bruschi explained that this votes allows the process go forward. There could be one to three more votes before the library moves forward. Balance of those in attendance voted 14 in favor
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- Member Smith will explain the amendment to the CPA using the example of the brick structure on the McLean property – the cost of the heating and maintenance needs to be identified since that will be borne by the operating budget.
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- The Committee then turned to the \$4K which Tom Younger had proposed in his third tier of increases for use of the \$300K funds which would go to the COA. The COA's own report shows 10% of users use 90% of services with 1500 total users. Non town contributions are \$186K, but this includes volunteer hours valued at \$140K. The Committee questioned the benefit of expanding one afternoon a week that would only benefit a very small # of users. Tom has said that his alternative would be to put the \$4K extra into vehicle maintenance and the DPW budget. Member Millane suggested that the COA to become revenue neutral as proposed re Recreation.
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- A discussion ensued regarding the available revenues from the new state aid. Chair Allison after review of work done by Member Sarno suggested one way that the school budget could get to level service with existing funds. This was proposed as an alternative to the method used by the school department. The discussion centered on the premise that different educators would get to level services by different methods depending on their view of education.
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- Funding made available by the additional state aid, budget savings, and SPED grant monies would get the school through the first three tiers of the School Superintendent listing. More discussion will continue on Wednesday.
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- Motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

