

W.A. #21 Comments ACAC Membership:

2.18.16

To: The Board of Selectmen

From: Barbara Costa, Co-chair, Arlington Commission on Arts & Culture

Barbaracosta331@gmail.com (also for Stephanie Marlin-Curiel, Co-Chair;
marlincuriel@gmail.com)

Re: Warrant Article Hearing 2.22.16

ARTICLE BYLAW AMENDMENT/ ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE MEMBERSHIP

To see if the Town will vote to amend Title II, Article 8 of the Town By-laws to increase the number of members of the Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture from seven to nine; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the Request of the Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture)

The Commission on Arts & Culture (ACAC) has voted to request a warrant article to amend a bylaw to allow us to have a total of 9 commissioners instead of the current 7.

We are making the request for 2 additional Commission members in order to help with our workload, as well as to bring additional perspectives and voices to the Commission. We are embarking on preparation toward a cultural planning process, which will involve a lot of time on the part of the Commissioners. We are also applying to the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) for a Cultural District designation for Arlington and will need to oversee its implementation, if we are approved by MCC.

Current wording in our bylaw states:

"Six members, one of whom shall be a member of the Vision 2020 Culture and Recreation Task Group, shall be appointed by the Town Manager subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen and one member shall be appointed by the School Committee."

We recommend (though this has not yet been voted upon by ACAC):

"Eight members... shall be appointed by the Town Manager subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen and one member shall be appointed by the School Committee."

We have discussed the above with Town counsel, Doug Heim.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.