

**TOWN MEETING STUDY COMMITTEE
DISSENTING VIEWS SUB-COMMITTEE - VIRTUAL
MEETING MINUTES - FINAL**

Friday, January 3, 2025, 6:30 pm

Members Present: Ben Shiller; Andy Wang

We discussed proposing a set of guidelines that would need to be met to allow for speaking time. There are additional issues that arise with and we discussed that we should provide a list of pros and cons of allowing these and how we might control for 'bad-behavior'. Discussed if we should allow for both dissenting and supporting views and if this may end up being counter to making the meeting move along more quickly.

We further discussed if this should be a set of guidelines or a by-law change. A guideline would allow the Moderator some discretion. A by-law would guarantee time, but potentially could be abused if not written tightly.

We discussed if the town should allow for possible control for misinformation or allow editorial review.

Actions:

- Write up a set of pros/cons for allowing dissenting views*
- Ask Sarah to inquire with the Moderators Association what other towns allow dissenting viewpoints in town meeting*

Will set regularly scheduled check in calls weekly as we move forward, time to be decided.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15

Submitted by Peggy Elder