

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RE-CAP

Town Meeting wrapped after 14 hours spread over all day on Saturday and continued to Monday night. Thank you to all who were able to be there to participate.

Article 60 (Short-Term Rentals): Which sought to limit vacation rentals based upon classes of ownership, failed to garner the 2/3 votes needed to pass. In fact, it did not achieve even a simple majority because it was clear that most people in attendance wanted to give the Short-Term Rental Work Group the time to finish their job. The final vote was 378 to 558. Next up: Special fall Town Meeting on November 7th, 2023 where the STRWG is expected to make their final recommendations to the community.

Article 62 (Chapter 41-81L): Submitted by Nantucket Land Council executive director Emily Molden, the article sought to close what she referred to as a "loophole" in Nantucket's zoning bylaw that allows subdivision (Ch. 41-81L) of pre-existing, non-conforming lots, as long as structures were present prior to the enactment of the town's zoning bylaw. Molden's petition earned a majority of the vote - 268 to 142 - but failed to secure the necessary two-thirds vote for passage.

Article 40 (fractional ownership): A zoning bylaw amendment, had been proposed to close a potential loophole in the zoning code that allows so-called "fractional ownership" of island homes. But both the Planning Board and Finance Committee moved not to adopt the article, stating: "Due to the on-going short-term rental discussion and the scheduled 2023 Special Town Meeting scheduled on November 7th, the Planning Board determined that this matter should be deferred until it can be discussed with other related articles". A majority of voters - 415 to 313 - approved the article, but it did not earn the required two-thirds threshold and was defeated.

Article 10 (Wauwinet Bike Path): Article provided funding of \$4.6 million to design a bike path from Polpis Road to Wauwinet. Largely because of safety concerns, the article passed by a vote of 666 to 103. The funding request still need to pass at the ballot on May 23, 2023.