

CTCA FOI SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, January 25, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m.

Present: Ann L. Dearstyne, Elaine O'Brien, Louisa Trakas, Colleen Murphy, Tom Hennick, Mike Dugan, Patricia Strauss and Joyce Mascena.

The election of a Vice Chairman was tabled until the next meeting. It was agreed that a quarterly meeting schedule would be reasonable. A special meeting could be called if something important occurred prior to the next meeting.

Patty Strauss and Joyce Mascena from the Legislative Committee distributed paperwork which dealt with two areas of concern. 1) Hand Held Scanners and 2) Town Clerk Records and Address Confidentiality.

The Town Clerk's Association is seeking to repeal the Hand Held Scanner Law since the type of scanner noted in Sec. 1-212 is obsolete. It is suggested that wording be added that allows the individual Towns to determine if they will allow alternate forms of scanning such as the Flatbed scanners. They suggest a bill for legislative action be reviewed very carefully to support the reproduction method of copies of public records be decided by each municipality and not by the end user.

Freedom of Information thought this might be met with opposition not just from FOI but other groups as well. It was suggested they the CTCA provide a more defined list of those documents that would not be available for alternate reproduction methods. Joyce felt it should be any permanent record however this will require more discussion.

The second item was to exempt Town Clerk records from address confidentiality. One suggestion was adding wording to Sec. 1-217 (b) that land records, maps and surveys, trade name certificates, dog licenses, vital records and list of appointed and elected officials be subject to disclosure maintained by the town clerk or registrar of vital statistics. This would add to the provision that applies to the Department of Motor Vehicles. Freedom of Information agrees that additional wording would be helpful however it has been attempted in previous legislative sessions without success.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.