

Article 12 Amendments

Greg Dennis, Precinct 1

Flaw 1: Denial of voting privileges

- Not conducive to collaboration and inclusivity
- May undermine committee due to lower attendance
- Contrary viewpoints relegated to non-voting status

Fix 1: Pagliasotti + Dennis 1 Amendments

- Give all members voting privileges
- One appointee by Moderator to serve as Chair
- Chair must be someone neutral on synthetic turf

Flaw 2: All problems, no solutions

- Committee to report only potential problems with turf
- Many ways to eliminate or mitigate the potential issues
- Neighboring and cohort municipalities are innovating

Fix 2: Dennis 2 Amendment

- Research experiences and innovations in other communities
- e.g., enhanced certification, natural infills, downcycling options
- Report a set of best practices for our use in the future

Flaw 3: Moratorium

- Ends the Poet's Corner project before we learn more about it
- Poet's remains an uncapped landfill and embarrassing eyesore
- Chances of retaining open space on St. Camillus land go to nil

Fix 3: Greenspon Amendment

- Poet's project goes before the Conservation Commission
- Further details of the Poet's deal are worked out
- Town Meeting votes on the project in the fall with more info

Who does *not* have a moratorium?

Springfield

- two ongoing projects (Duggan Park and Central HS) to install 3 new turf fields

Belmont

- installed turf field at High School in 2021 after committee concluded turf was safe

Brookline

- installing turf at new Driscoll School after task force concluded turf was safe

Boston

- installing new turf at Charlestown High School; declared no ban on turf

Andover

- installing new turf at Bancroft Elementary; approved by Town Meeting last week

Our eco-conscious neighbors

- Cambridge, Somerville, Medford, Winchester, Lexington, Watertown,...

How did this get so complicated?

- No details of the study committee presented at the Select Board hearing
- Lack of early public scrutiny and feedback on committee proposal
- We are unlikely to reach any kind of satisfactory action on the article
- We should patch it with amendments, then vote the whole thing down
- Supporters can come back with a balanced and well-structured proposal