

—Slug:.....COMM-0854.opin.letter.a00_mccaffrey
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—For section.....Voices/Letters from readers
—Format.....Opinions - Letters to the Editor - Special
—Dateline.....Brattleboro
—Article Number:.....43183



Notes from editor (not for publication):



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

1 Open Town Meeting: maximum participation as needed

####END HED####

####BEGIN SUBHED####

2

####END SUBHED####

3 TEXT BODY:

RE: "Who governs Brattleboro — and how?" [Forum,
Feb. 18]:

####BEGIN TEXT####

4 In the Special Focus Issue containing many thoughts on
5 the upcoming ballot questions as to town governance,
6 democracy is sometimes stated as (but is more often tacitly
7 assumed to be) an underlying goal to which we all ascribe. And
8 so it should be.

9 However, it must be noted that as a component of a
10 desirable governing structure, democracy is necessary, but not
11 sufficient.

12 Look at the result of democracy at the national level.
13 Restrictions on government powers are also necessary. I have
14 read that Thomas Jefferson would not have supported the
15 Constitution as written without the inclusion of the Bill of Rights.

16 I know it's not up for current discussion, but the Dillon
17 Rule should be repealed in Vermont. Democracy sometimes
18 results in having too much representation deciding how town
19 governments should function.

20 Reading the pros and cons for Brattleboro governance
21 has reinforced my decision to support a change to an open Town
22 Meeting. This would allow for maximum participation as needed
23 by those who wish to participate.

24 As has been said elsewhere: Power to the people!

####END TEXT####

BIO/COATTAIL:

####BEGIN BIO/COATTAIL####

25

####END BIO/COATTAIL####

LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

####BEGIN MAXISSUE####

26

0

####END MAXISSUE####

LINKS:

####BEGIN LINKS####

27

####END LINKS####

VIDEO:

####BEGIN VIDEO####

28

####END VIDEO####

LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

####BEGIN LOGLINE####

29

####END LOGLINE####