



Charter Review Committee Minutes

Tacoma Municipal Building, 733 Market Street, Room 16
www.cityoftacoma.com/charterreview

February 5, 2014

Chair Baarsma called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Committee Members Present: 15 Baker, Brackett (attended telephonically), Edmonds (attended telephonically), Farrell (arrived at 7:10), Hahn, Horne, Leighton, Martinez, Merritt, Messina, Miller Talton, Ushka, Van Dyk and Chair Baarsma.

Committee Members Absent: 0

Approval of the January 27 and February 3, 2014 Minutes

Committee Member Hahn moved that minutes of January 27 and Feb 3 be approved, seconded by Committee Member Miller. Discussion ensued regarding the minutes of Feb 3 resulting in a change in the number of subcommittees from three (administrative, legislative and form of government) to five (administrative, legislative, form of government, public utilities and housekeeping. Committee Member Ushka made a motion for an amendment to the minutes with the changes and Miller seconded. A voice vote was taken and carried for the amended minutes of February 3, 2014. A voice vote was taken for January 27, 2014 minutes and carried.

Presentation by City Staff Regarding Technical Changes to the Charter

At approximately 7:12 p.m., Elizabeth Pauli, City Attorney, spoke to section 2.19 of the charter and explained proposed changes. Tanzy Howard, Assistant City Manager, spoke regarding the Human Rights Commission chapter 1.29 asking to align with state law. Joy St Germain, Human Resources Director spoke to the charter language on residency and gave a PowerPoint presentation. Discussion ensued. Committee Member Leighton asked for an organizational chart for the City of Tacoma. Clarifying questions were asked regarding residency and recruitment. More discussion and Chair Baarsma asked that this item be sent to a subcommittee for further exploration. Joy St. Germaine said she would follow-up with staff liaison regarding materials requested from the Committee.

2004 Rejected Amendments and other past proposed amendments

At approximately 8:11 p.m., Chair Baarsma went over the rejected amendments from 2004 and 1983 noting that those amendments that still have life should be looked at again. Discussion ensued and Chair Baarsma agreed to send them to a subcommittee and that new issues have priority over past failed amendments. It was agreed to gather background on the amendments to give context to them. There was general consensus that this was acceptable.

Finalize Communication Plan

At approximately 8:22 p.m., Justin Leighton, Charter Review Committee Secretary, reviewed with the committee that final draft of the communication plan. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Committee Member Ushka to approve the communication plan and Committee Member Hahn seconded. A voice vote was taken and carried.

Planning Calendar and Work Schedule

At approximately 8:30 p.m., Jeanne Harris, Charter Review Liaison reported on the work schedule giving an overview of speakers that have agreed to attend sessions before the Committee. A request was made

for revision dates on documents that are changing, such as the work schedule and it was agreed to add revision dates.

Other Business/Unfinished Business

At approximately 8:35 p.m. Chair Baarsma expressed concern about publicity for the public hearing.

At approximately 8:36 p.m., Martha Lantz, Deputy City Attorney, talked to the Committee about how to manage social media as a public document and how important it is to make sure a record is kept and also encouraged them to communicate with the public knowing what might be requested. Discussion ensued regarding support from communications and Bill and Jeanne were directed to find out what support there was from communications. Jeanne was instructed to ask about using the city's boards and commissions email lists to send an announcement of the public hearing on Monday, February 10, 2014. It was agreed by consensus that committee Members would send out an email to their own networks announcing the public hearing.

Public Comment

None.

Name Address/Affiliation

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m.

Bill Baarsma, Chair

Jeanne Harris, Charter Review Liaison