

CITY OF STAMFORD 17TH CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Members

JOSH FEDELI

VINCENT J. FRECCIA, III

CLARENCE R. GREBEY III

JOANNA M. GWOZDZIOWSKI

MICHAEL C. JACHIMCZYK

BRIAN S. KRIFTCHER

DAVID LUCAS

Vincent J. Freccia, III, Co-Chair

Jay H. Sandak, Co-Chair

Susan A. Nabel, Clerk

Members

ROSANNE MCMANUS

SUSAN A. NABEL

GAIL S. OKUN

ROBERT S. ROBINS

RICH ROSEMAN

JAY H. SANDAK

DONALD B. SHERER

DUDLEY N. WILLIAMS, JR.

MINUTES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

7:00 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

4th Floor, Government Center

888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06904-2152

Call to Order by Co-Chair Sandak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Co-Chairs Freccia and Sandak and Commission Members Grebey, Jachimczyk, Lucas, McManus, Nabel, Okun, Roseman, Sherer and Williams; Mr. Fedeli participated via telephone. Excused were Commissioners Gwozdzowski, Robins and Kriftcher.

Rules of Order – Issuance of Minority Report

The Commission members held a lengthy discussion on the pros and cons of issuing minority reports. The discussion concluded with the general consensus that a minority report would not be advantageous. Co-Chair Sandak felt that a minority report at the draft level would not serve the Commission's purposes as the Commission members should be advocates for the final/draft report, and a minority report would diminish this effort. Mr. Freccia stated that consideration could be given to providing the votes Final Report.

If the BOR rejects the Commission's rejections, a Sense of the Commission resolution at that time may be appropriate.

Co-Chair Sandak added that the Commission can go directly to the ballot; there is an entire process for this. This will be one of the first assignments given to the Commission's legal counsel.

Committee Assignments

The Committee Assignments were distributed (see [attached](#)). Mr. Sandak stated:

1. The co-chairs attempted to match people's strengths with the assigned committee.
2. The committees will be doing the bulk of the work.
3. Any member can attend any committee meeting.

4. Only members of a committee can vote at the committee meeting.
5. The Government Committee will meet on Monday evenings; Tuesday nights will be the Public Safety & Health/Education/Ethics Committee and Thursday nights will be the Financial Committee.
6. During the month of December, the Committees should go through their agenda items to:
 - a. identify technical issues that they want to refer back to the Commission as a whole;
 - b. identify any issues they feel are a cross between two committees;
 - c. Identify issues the committee does not want to consider.
 - d. Identify the topics and the individuals to identify what kind of input the Committee is going to want from third parties.
7. At the first January meeting, the Committees will report back to the Commission.
8. The majority of the technical issues will most likely be referred to legal counsel.

Resignation of Member

Co-Chair Sandak stated that Mr. Kriftcher has resigned from the Commission. The BOR will name a replacement at its January 3, 2012 meeting.

Committee Reports

Communications Committee: Mr. Grebey distributed a timeline (see [attached](#)). This is a beginning step to get the message out to the public. Ms. Nabel added that the Communications Committee is also an education committee.

Other Business

1. Mr. Sandak stated that any expenses need to be pre-approved by the co-chairs.
2. Mr. Freccia noted that meetings do not have to be in the evenings; they can be held during the day.
3. All meetings must be noticed with the Town Clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.
4. If only two people show up for a meeting, it is not a quorum and therefore not a meeting. You will need to reschedule.
5. It is up to the Committee Chair whether to allow anyone, other than members of the Commission, to speak at a committee meeting. Commission members who are not members of the Committee shall be recognized to speak.
6. Three committee members constitute a meeting for FOI purposes; a proper meeting notice must be filed.

At 7:45 p.m., the Commission took a minute recess, resuming at 7:55 p.m.

Approval of minutes of 11/30/11 Commission Meeting.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Future Meeting Dates

1. The Committees scheduled meetings for the following week, which will be noticed by the BOR Office.
2. . There will be no full Commission meeting for the rest of December.

RFP/Legal Counsel

The RFP responses are due back on December 15th. A panel will be selected to review them and make a recommendation.

Commission members discussed whether communications with its attorney would be confidential. The Co-Chairs advised they would confer with Atty. Mike Toma for guidance on this issue.

Public Comment

The Commission discussed whether public comment should be allowed at each committee meeting, at just the commission meetings or not at all. The BOF and the BOE allow public comment at the beginning of their meetings; the BOR does not. It was decided there would not be a formal time period for public comment, but it would be left to the discretion of the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jay H. Sandak, Co-Chair

Vincent J. Freccia, III, Co-Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).