



**CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

City Hall, Conference Room
1249 Marin Avenue, Albany
Monday, June 28, 2010
7:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Members Bailes, Baty, Grossman, Holan (arrived at 7:15), Jordan, and O'Keefe
Absent: Chairman Wallace

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-1. Members Bailes moved and Baty seconded approval of the minutes of the May 24, 2010 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously with Grossman abstaining and Holan not yet present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

For persons desiring to address the Committee on an item that is not on the agenda please note that each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes. The Brown Act limits the Committee's ability to take and/or discuss items that are not on the agenda; therefore, such items are normally referred to staff for comment or to a future agenda.

Joan Larson, President of the Albany Historical Society, invited everyone to submit ideas for historic plaque topics/locations. Submissions can be made by mail to the Society (1249 Marin Avenue), at the July 4th event at Memorial Park, entered on line (<http://albanycahistory.org/id5.html>), or by phone (526-7769).

5. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

5-1. Follow up on City Attorney elected/appointed ballot process

The Committee discussed means of informing the public about this ballot measure. The Committee decided that the primary topic of its September meeting should be presenting the public with information about the measure and would pursue additional outreach to let the public know about this meeting. Member O'Keefe committed to contacting the City Clerk regarding highlighting this meeting on the City's home page. Additional publicity options were notices in local media such as Patch, The Journal and Albany Today.

The Committee also desired a second public outreach event, preferably on a Saturday. Participating in the likely League of Woman Voters event regarding the council candidates was the most desirable option. Member Holan committed to contacting the League. If participation in this event was not possible, the Committee's second choice was to hold a meeting on the first Saturday in October.

It was also suggested to make presentations regarding the measure to various community organizations, such as the PTAs, Rotary, Senior Center, Solano Avenue Association, Chamber of Commerce, Green Party, Democratic Party Central Committee, and Sierra Club.

The Committee wondered if the current City Attorney would endorse the measure or sign the argument for or rebuttal to the argument against the measure.

The Committee selected members for the ballot argument committee. Members Bailes, Holan and Jordan agreed to serve on the committee drafting the argument for the measure, which Mayor Wile and Councilor Atkinson had already been appointed to by the Council. Member Bailes was to contact the Council members regarding establishing a time for the first meeting of this committee. Member Jordan was to contact Chair Wallace about serving on the committee in his place if possible. Member Baty was to substitute for Member Holan on the committee regarding drafting the rebuttal to the argument against the measure.

5-2. Follow up from City Council June 21 meeting – City Administrator position

At its June 21st meeting, the Council asked the Charter Review Committee to provide the reasons for its unanimous recommendation against changing the title of the City Administrator to City Manager without providing department hiring and firing responsibility. Committee members offered the following reasons to be conveyed to Council: change in title without this change in responsibility could create problems during future recruitment efforts, cause confusion in the city administrator/manager peer group, be disrespectful to the current city administrator, be disrespectful to other city managers, and is unresponsive to the original reason this change was suggested in the CityGate report.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Member Jordan announced that The New America Foundation's political reform program had collapsed due to loss of funding from a major sponsor. Blair Bobier, who provided a well received presentation on ranked choice voting as it could be used in Albany to some Charter Review members and the public at the October 2009 meeting, which was canceled for lack of quorum, is no longer employed by the Foundation.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

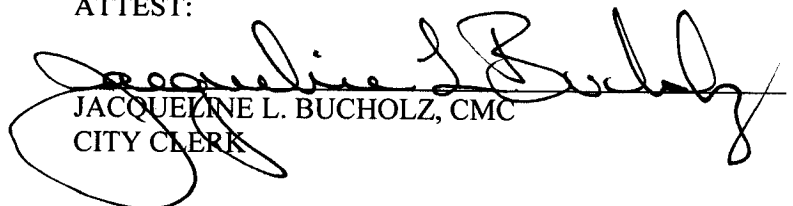
Discussion of Member Grossman's desire for a city government performance review
Follow up on the City Treasurer qualifications requirements
Reform of City Council elections
Outcome of recommendation that the Council use cumulative voting when making multiple Council-as-whole appointments to a single advisory body
There was sentiment among the members that the July meeting should occur given the number of items to work upon.

8. ADJOURNMENT

8:45 pm –There being no further business before the Committee, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting.


PRESTON JORDAN
VICE CHAIR

ATTEST:


JACQUELINE L. BUCHOLZ, CMC
CITY CLERK