

MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS 2014 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
Monday, July 21, 2014

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Vice Chairman Jim Walsh at 6:43 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Dr. Stephen Atkins, Mrs. Joyce Grady, Mrs. Judy Shrefler, Mrs. Sandy Taddeo,
Mrs. Tanya Taylor-Draper and Vice Chairman Jim Walsh

Members Absent:

Chairman Andy Gardner, Mr. C.J. Latsa and Mr. Jerry Wolanin

Six of nine members are present – recognized as quorum.

Approval of Charter Review Commission minutes of 07/15/14:

Motion to approve by Mrs. Joyce Grady

Motion seconded by Mrs. Tanya Taylor-Draper

ROLL CALL: 6 AYES - unanimous MOTION PASSES.

Correspondence:

Chairman Pro Tem Walsh read email dated 7/16/14 from Economic Development Director Steve Roszczyk re. Article 5.15

Chairman Pro Tem Walsh read email dated 7/21/14 from CRC member C.J. Latsa re. his opinion on procedure for addressing Charter issues

Point of Order:

In the absence of Chairman Gardner, a Vice Chairman needed to be appointed for this meeting. Mrs. Joyce Grady nominated Mrs. Judy Shrefler as Vice Chairman for tonight's meeting. Mrs. Tanya Taylor-Draper seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 AYES - unanimous MOTION PASSES.

Public Portion:

Public Portion opened at 6:49 p.m.

The following individuals spoke:

1. **Mr. Frank Cihula, 35060 Dixon Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094**
Spoke regarding the number of items to be put on the ballot and reminded the CRC of a previous Charter Review Commission putting 16 issues on the ballot, with 15 passing.
Spoke regarding "Zoning" and reminded the Commission that "it is a lot of work to draft new legislation." Advised them to "go back to previous wording" and "don't reinvent the wheel"
Chairman Pro-Tem Walsh asked Mr. Cihula's opinion about the zoning issues being on the ballot. He indicated he "would be in favor of putting the Charter back to the way it used to be."
- 2) **Ms. Cheryl Ota, 2960 Marcum Blvd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44092**
Asked for correction to minutes of July 15, 2014 regarding her request to have the City officials' letters that have been prepared as part of the CRC's Public Hearings be read aloud, and not "put on city website" as the minutes reflected.
Clerk agreed to amend the minutes as noted.
- 3) **Councilman David Fiebig, 35701 Hanna Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094**
Asked for correction to minutes of July 15, 2014, regarding CRC ballot issues –will email Clerk exact verbage to make correction.
(Clerk reviewed 7/15/14 minutes and made correction to 7/15/14 minutes accordingly. Had not rec'd Councilman's email with verbage correction at time of minutes going "to press".
Commented on C.J. Latsa email; has questions re. deletion of 4.32 and the term "low hanging fruit".
Mrs. Tanya Taylor-Draper thought it would be fair to wait until C.J. Latsa returns to be able to personally address any items in his email. Chairman Pro Tem Walsh agreed.
- 4) **Mr. Robert Kowalsky, 2585 Timberline Drive, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094**
"Déjà vu"; Mr. Kowalsky passed out a document entitled "Their Colors are Showing Not Red, White or Blue re. 2008 election ballot issues and another document re. petition for proposed amendment.
- 5) **Councilman John Plecnik, 2890 Bishop Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44092**
"Thanks to Chairman Andy Gardner for preparing the list" of items for review."
Addressed Point 37 on the list indicating there is a policy to do this already.

Chairman Pro Tem Walsh echoed Councilman Plecnik's acknowledgement of Chairman Andy Gardner's work on the list of items for the Commission's Review. All Commission members agreed.

Public Portion closed at 7:14 p.m.

Old Business:

Procedure for Review of Charter:

Mrs. Joyce Grady confirmed deadline for ballot issues per her meeting with Lake County Board of Elections Director Arch Kimbrew. Mrs. Tanya Taylor-Draper offered “there should be an attempt by us to do something.” She suggested to “determine what is complicated and what is less complicated.”

Mrs. Joyce Grady made a motion to try to provide ballot issues by 8/12/14 and have 8/19/14 as a second deadline. Mrs. Judy Shrefler seconded the motion. Vote: 6 AYES – unanimous. MOTION PASSES.

Sequential vs. Priority (Process for approaching ballot issues):

Each member offered their opinion on the best way to approach the Charter Review process as follows:

Dr. Stephen Atkins – Would support sequential; concerns about submitting it and then seeing a change required; would like to discuss all items then review for final approval on 8/12.

Chairman ProTem Walsh – “go sequentially but follow the branches”

Mrs. Tanya Taylor-Draper – Hopes the CRC will be given an opportunity to continue their work next year; suggests reviewing everything to make sure we understand all items, but there are issues we can focus in on what we can accomplish. Suggests to prioritize.

Vice Chairman Pro Tem Judy Shrefler says it is “unfortunate” to only have so much time to do this task. She suggests it may be more effective to go sequentially and give time for next year. “If we don’t address the priority issues, we have to live with it as it is for another year and what ramifications would that have on the City? According to 5.62, July 15 is the earliest date a draft would be due to Council.” “Something like that would be a priority”. Since only a limited number of issues can be addressed, “I would like to handle priority issues this year and get a chance next year.”

Mrs. Sandy Taddeo suggested “there are some issues here I would hate to leave in the dust.”

Mrs. Joyce Grady said that she had the same train of thought, adding “I don’t think we can complete it all now.”

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Pro Tem Judy Shrefler, seconded by Mrs. Joyce Grady to “prioritize the items in the Charter to review for this CRC and address as many as possible.” Vote: 6 AYES – unanimous. MOTION PASSES.

New Business:

Chairman Pro Tem asked all members to review the list provided by Chairman Andy Gardner, assigning priority numbers from 1 to 5 (1 being the most important, 5 being the least important) for tomorrow night’s meeting. This will be the agenda topic, as well as the presentation by the Civil Service Commission.

Public Portion (reopened for the following comments:

- 1) Mr. Frank Cihula, 35060 Dixon Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
Mr. Cihula mentioned “tackle issues that brought you here.”
- 2) Mr. Robert Kowalsky, 2585 Timberline Drive, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
“Don’t give up.”

Public Portion closed at 7:43 p.m.

Dr. Stephen Atkins reminded the CRC that “we can meet after 8/12/14 since this Board is appointed until Election Day”. The Commission agreed that it would be a good idea to “keep the momentum going.”

For the Good of the Order:

None

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Joyce Grady seconded by Mrs. Sandy Taddeo.

ROLL CALL: 6 AYES – unanimous MOTION PASSES.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

APPROVED: 7/22/14

ATTEST: Gloria Majeski
Gloria Majeski

W. James Walsh
W. James Walsh, Vice Chairman
(in the absence of Chairman Gardner)