

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
KILLINGWORTH, CT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES*

March 29, 2021

Conducted as a Virtual Meeting via GoToMeeting

Members Present: Robert Rimmer (Chair), Walter Adametz, Joan Gay, Nancy Gorski, Mary Casey Jacob, Mary Meixell, Kathleen Zandi.

Others Present: Catherine Iino, Richard Pleines (7:16pm), Eileen Unger-Pleines (7:18pm), Annie Stirna (7:27pm), and Shauna Ham, clerk.

Agenda items were discussed in the order in which they are presented herein.

1) Call to order. At 6:02pm, Chairman Rimmer called the meeting to order.

2) Public Input. None.

3) Hiring of Clerk.

Motion: W Adametz moved to hire Shauna Ham as clerk. N Gorski seconded.

Vote: All in favor; motion passed unanimously (7-0-0).

4) Introduction.

R Rimmer reported that to extend the charter revision deadline, the Board of Selectmen voted to dissolve and re-form the Charter Revision Commission. The re-formed commission is comprised of the same members as the previous commission, and all were sworn-in prior to the beginning of this meeting. Being a new commission, several mandatory items must be addressed, including election of officers and schedule of meetings (previously scheduled meetings were cancelled as a result of the previous commission being dissolved). The previous commission's 3/15/21 public hearing will not satisfy statutory requirements; the newly-formed commission is required to hold one public hearing one prior to the beginning of any substantive work, and one after the draft report to the Board of Selectmen has been completed, but not submitted.

Members discussed drafting timing and referenced §7-191 of the Connecticut General Statutes to calculate when they would need to submit the draft report to the Board of Selectmen in order for charter amendments to be included on the November 2021 ballot. They determined that their goal is to submit their final draft to the Board of Selectmen by July 1, 2021.

After the first public hearing, the commission can begin drafting amendments ("substantive work"). Members strategized how best to approach the drafting process, so that work can progress in an efficient and organized manner.

Motion: MC Jacob moved to schedule a public hearing on 4/14/2021 at 7:00pm. J Gay seconded.
Vote: All in favor; motion passed unanimously (7-0-0).

5) Establish Schedule of Meetings.

Members agreed generally to meet on the first and third Mondays of each month. April meetings (4/05, 4/14, and 4/19/21) will be special meetings.

Motion: N Gorski moved to schedule regular meetings at 7:00pm on the following dates in 2021: 5/03, 5/17, 6/01, 6/07, 6/21, 6/23 (Public Hearing), 6/24, 7/19, 8/02, 8/16, 8/30, 9/20, and 10/04.

W Adametz seconded.

Vote: All in favor; motion passed unanimously (7-0-0).

6) Election of Officers.

Motion: N Gorski moved to elect Rob Rimmer as Chair of the Charter Revision Commission. MC Jacob moved to elect Joan Gay as Vice-Chair and Nancy Gorski as Secretary of the Charter Revision Commission. W Adametz seconded.

Vote: All in favor; motion passed unanimously (7-0-0).

7) Stakeholder Meeting Discussion. No update.

8) Review and Discussion of Current Charter. None.

Members continued discussion of drafting strategy. MC Jacob and J Gay volunteered to work as primary writers. K Zandi volunteered to be the on-screen note-taker.

Members agreed to go through their own notes to identify and list the major issues that affect multiple articles, to have prepared for the next meeting.

There was discussion about preparation for the 4/14 public hearing. MC Jacob volunteered to post flyers and distribute copies of the current charter at local establishments. M Meixell will prepare a short PowerPoint presentation.

9) Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shauna Ham