

# Minneapolis Charter Commission Minutes

August 3, 2011 - 4:00 p.m.  
Room 317 City Hall, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Commissioners Present: Clegg (Chair), Cohen, Dolan, Ferrara, Gerdes, Johnson, Kozak, Lazarus, Lickness, Metge, Peltola, Sandberg, Schwarzkopf

Commissioners Excused: Connell, Rubenstein

Also Present: Peter Ginder, Deputy City Attorney

## 1. Roll Call

Chair Clegg called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. Roll call was taken.

## 2. Adopt Agenda

*Lazarus moved adoption of the agenda.* Seconded.

Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Connell, Johnson, Rubenstein.

## 3. Approve minutes of regular meeting of July 6, 2011

*Dolan moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of July 6, 2011.* Seconded.

Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Connell, Johnson, Rubenstein.

## 4. Chair's Report

Clegg reported that he was planning an orientation for the Redistricting Group, which included the Charter Commission and the Advisory Group. When the date is determined, he will email the Redistricting Group and post notice of the meeting online, as well.

## Discussion

### 5. Plain Language Charter Revision (PLCR) Working Group: Committee report.

Clegg reported that the committee met on July 21. The meeting was also attended by former Commissioner Brian Melendez. The committee walked through the changes proposed by the City Attorney's Office, and Mr. Melendez will contact Deputy City Attorney Ginder with questions and clarifications. Mr. Melendez was hoping to have a new draft of the Revision at the September Charter Commission meeting which incorporated the City Attorney's comments.

### 6. Communications Committee: Committee report.

Ferrara reported that the Communications Committee met on July 25, and he was selected as Chair. The committee will meet on the last Wednesday of each month, as needed. Their next meeting is scheduled for August 31. The meetings are open to the public and all Charter Commissioners are invited to attend. The committee is still forming ideas, strategies, and plans. Commissioner Johnson had voiced concerns regarding adequate budget and support staff for the work envisioned. They will be looking to the Charter Commission to formulate exactly what

to communicate. The committee discussed interfacing with the City's Communications Department, particularly regarding the City's website, and is hoping to invite City staff to the next committee meeting to discuss the available methods to communicate redistricting information to the public. Discussion also centered around establishing contact lists. He had emailed a link to the 2002 redistricting website, and the committee is looking for input as to how it could be revised for 2012.

Clegg urged everyone to review the 2002 Redistricting web page at: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/redistricting/>. It contained historical information and would perhaps be a good place to start in developing the 2012 web page.

Kozak noted that the committee had unanimously agreed that ultimately the Chair of the Charter Commission was the spokesperson for the Charter Commission who would decide what information to communicate and how to communicate that information.

**7. Operations Committee:  
Meeting scheduled.**

Clegg reported that he would schedule an Operations Committee meeting within the next week. It will be an open meeting and noticed on the City's website.

Kozak requested a progress report on the lawsuit regarding state legislative redistricting. Deputy City Attorney Ginder stated that the City Attorney's Office would provide the Charter Commission with an update on the status of that case at the next meeting.

## **Public Commentary**

There was no one present wishing to address the Charter Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Peggy Menshek  
Council Committee Coordinator