

April 28, 2021 Charter Review Commission Regular Meeting

Call to Order: Chair Kevin Ranker called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

Roll Call: Sharon Abreu, David Anderson, Kyle Davies, David Dehlendorf, Paul Dossett, Jane Fuller, Patty Garcia, Tony Ghazel, Richard Grout, Liz Lafferty, Bob O'Connell, Kevin Ranker (Chair), Maureen See, Anne Marie Shanks, Tom Starr. Janet's absence was excused. Olivia Roseberry (Vice Chair) and Bill Appel arrived a few minutes later.

Others Present: Rick Hughes, Amy Vira, Randy Gaylord, Milene Henley, Alexandra Gayek, Michelline Halliday, Michael Moore, Christina, and Kathryn Hansen (CRC Assistant).

Approval of April 21, 2021 meeting **minutes**.

MOVED by Liz Lafferty; **SECONDED** by Anne Marie Shanks, to approve the Minutes as presented. Discussion followed. 15 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstained. **MOTION PASSED.**

New Business. Chair Ranker welcomed Amy Vira re: public records requests to the CRC to clarify what is expected of members. Each member is individually responsible for responding to a records request in a timely fashion if we receive one. This duty cannot be delegated. Kevin added that there was an April 8 public records request sent from Sally Rogers to the full CRC; please respond tonight! "Records" means all documentation including texts, Word docs and handwritten notes. Kevin thanked Ms. Vira for the refresher.

Kevin led a discussion on the timing and process of the committee presentations to the full CRC. Of note, some members would like a further discussion about RCV and maybe an up or down vote. All members should have an opportunity to speak their opinion before calling for a vote, but there is a fine line – don't want to spend much time on something that only has two people's support.

MOVED by Paul Dossett; **SECONDED** by Dick Grout, to require a minimum of 5 CRC members to bring up a subject for discussion by the full CRC. Discussion followed. 14 Ayes, 2 Opposed, 1 Abstained. **MOTION PASSED.**

Committee Report. Initiative & Referendum. Patty led the group through the four issues that the committee had studied and shared their findings. The first two were brought for a vote.

MOVED by Bob O'Connell; **SECONDED** by Bill Appel, to adopt the recommendation of the Initiative and Referendum Committee to lower the required number of signatures for initiatives and referendums to 8% of the people who voted in the last gubernatorial election. The mini-initiative requirement shall remain at 3%. Discussion followed. 15 Ayes, 1 Opposed, 1 Abstained. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOVED by Bob O'Connell; **SECONDED** by Kyle Davies, to adopt the recommendation of the Initiative and Referendum Committee to strike section 6.21(2) that requires specific additional funds source(s) within initiatives: "No initiative proposal requiring the expenditure of additional funds for an existing activity or of any funds for a new activity or purpose shall be filed unless provisions are specifically made therein for new or additional sources of revenue which may thereby be required.". Discussion followed. 16 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstained. **MOTION PASSED.**

Staff will forward these two items to Prosecuting Attorney Randy Gaylord for his review.

Both regulating paid signature gathering (could be seen as infringing on First Amendment rights) and allowing electronic signatures (technology level is not currently ready) proved challenging to implement, so neither rose for a vote.

Kevin thanked Patty for the committee's work and the format of the final product.

Next Steps –

- Hiring Staff #2. At the last meeting, the Commission authorized Kevin & Olivia to hire new staff and to extend Kathryn's contract. Kevin & Olivia are contacting some candidates to draft comments and assist the CRC with research. The budget is limited.
- Request to extend Kathryn's Contract. Kevin & Olivia have met with HR Manager, James Wolf.

Open for Public Comment. Chair Ranker opened public comment.

Alexandra Gayek, Orcas, stated that she appreciates being involved in the CRC meetings by asking questions and providing ideas.

Clarissa Szabados-Mish, Lopez, asked that members consider water resources as an important topic.

Next steps, cont'd. Related to the public comment about water, Bob O'Connell shared a state projection for 2050 local population of 150 people fewer than current.

Kevin encouraged committees to complete their reports, following Patty's format, if possible. He recognized that some discussions will be lengthy and need to allow for considerate debate to get to thoughtful outcomes. There was discussion of meeting structure and time allowed for recap of issues. Kevin Ranker asked that committee materials be sent in by 5:00pm Mondays. It was noted that the minutes provide a simple action summary.

There was concern that missing four meetings causing dismissal from the Commission (Section 9.21). Randy Gaylord will provide guidance.

Meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm.

Sharon Abreu / Kathryn Hansen
Recording Secretary

Minutes were approved by consensus at the May 5, 2021 Regular Meeting