

TOWN OF RICHMOND, RHODE ISLAND
5 Richmond Townhouse Road
Wyoming, RI 02898
(401) 539-9000 www.richmondri.com



HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION

Town Hall – Council Chambers

March 14, 2022

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Chairman Reddish.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair B. Joe Reddish, III, Mark Reynolds, Gina M. DeBernardo, Erin F. Liese, Tracy A. Nelson, Benjamin Jack and Joseph Arsenault. Not present: Krista Tracy.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1) Discussion and Approval of Minutes from December 6, 2021.

MOTION made by G. DeBernardo SECOND by M. Reynolds to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2021 meeting. Vote: All Ayes

D. PUBLIC FORUM

- 1) Resident's suggested amendment's to the Home Rule Charter

There was no public comment.

E. NEW BUSINESS

Please Note in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b) the Commission May Review, Discuss and/or take Action on the following items:

- 1) Discussion on Final Review

T. Nelson shared concern with the feedback provided by the Solicitor. She explained this was a draft and not the final version and questioned how this came about.

E. Liese clarified how the Solicitor received the draft. She explained that she had checked the minutes of the previous meeting and it was the Commissions wishes to make the draft Public as long as the document stated "draft". She then sent it to the Town Administrator for posting on the website and then it was sent as a courtesy to the Town Council and Town Solicitor. She also expressed concern with the Solicitor's response as she was not asked to make the review.

Discussion ensued on solicitor review.

T. Nelson also brought up concern regarding future Public Hearings. She questioned who said this was that last public input.

Chair Reddish also feels there should be more hearings.

E. Liese mentioned she did feel staff, council and the public have all had the opportunity to weigh in on the amendments. She also advised during the Town Council review the public will also have the opportunity.

Discussion ensued on additional meetings for public input.

2) Discussion on any other areas that should be reviewed or added to the Charter

M. Reynolds stated that we should review the draft as a group page by page.

T. Nelson advised on the following potential amendments: Preamble needs to be added back in, Board of Canvassers Certification date, Elected Officials and revolving door.

Discussion ensued on board and commissions providing a report on activities and attendance.

M. Reynolds felt this would be burdensome.

The Recreation Commission section was reviewed and it was determined it would remain the same.

The Municipal Court section was reviewed.

The Juvenile Hearing Board section was reviewed and discussion occurred on if it should remain reserved. It was determined that it would remain the same.

The Budget Referendum language was reviewed.

The recall provision was reviewed.

The performance evaluation was reviewed in the Town Administration section.

Discussion ensued on Council direction of Town employees.

The Commission completed its review at page 10, Article 3 Section 7.

It was noted the personal ordinance should be reviewed.

3) Schedule future meeting dates

Meeting dates were reviewed and it was determined the next meeting would be March 30, 2022.

F. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION made by M. Reynolds, SECOND by G. DeBernardo to adjourn at 7:08 P.M.
All Ayes**

Respectfully submitted,

Erin F. Liese, CMC
Town Clerk