

City of Woonsocket Charter Review Commission

Minutes

March 6, 2024

At

Harris Hall, Woonsocket City Hall, 169 Main Street, Woonsocket, RI 02895

I. Meeting Called to Order

Allan Fung called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Allan Fung took a roll call

All members (Vincent Bono, Carol Chattman, Thomas Gray, David Lahousse, and David Nabb) were present

Also present were: Allan Fung, Esq., Michael J. Lepizzera, Jr., Esq., Michael J. Lepizzera, III, Esq., Mayor Christopher Beauchamp, and City Council President John Ward

A Quorum was present

II. New Business

Overview of the Duties and Goals of the Commission

Mayor Beauchamp addressed the Commission and thanked the members for the important work that they are about to undertake. Then, Allan Fung described the duties and the goals hoped to be accomplished by the Commission's review of the charter

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair and any other officers of the Commission Deems Necessary

Motion by David Nabb to nominate Vincent Bono as the Chairperson, Seconded by Thomas Gray. No other nominations were put forward and Allan Fung closed the call for nominations. All unanimously voted for Vincent Bono as Chairman. Allan Fung then handed the gavel to Chairman Bono.

Chairman Bono called for nominations for Vice Chair. Motion by Vincent Bono to nominate David Nabb as the Vice Chairperson, Seconded by Thomas Gray. No other nominations were put forward and Chairman Bono closed the call for nominations. All unanimously voted for David Nabb as the Vice Chairperson.

Discussion of Establishment of Rules/Guidelines deemed necessary for efficiency and good order of the Commission

There was a discussion about rules/guidelines that other charter review commission have implemented. After some discussion, a motion was made by Vice Chairperson David Nabb to

limit the period of public comment to 5 minutes each maximum, which is consistent with the council rule. The motion was seconded by Carol Chattman. The vote was unanimous.

Then, Chairperson Vincent Bono made a motion to limit the meetings to a maximum of 3 hours long and it was seconded by Vice Chairperson David Nabb. The vote was unanimous.

Finally, the Commission discussed making a website to allow the public to provide comments to the Commission. The commission members agreed that this would be a good idea.

Chairperson Vincent Bono also suggested that Allan Fung have a dedicated email specifically for Woonsocket Charter Review Commission matters and to receive any comments.

Discussion regarding scheduling of future meetings

Chairperson Vincent Bono made motion to meet weekly at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and it was seconded by Carol Chattman. All voted to make this meeting weekly on Wednesday.

April 10th is the goal for a vote on recommendations to forward all recommendations to the City Council at their meeting,

The next meeting scheduled is 3-13-24 at 5:30 p.m.

III. Public Comment

No public Comment

IV. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Vincent Bono and seconded by Vice Chairperson David Nabb. Vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

Submitted by: Allan W. Fung, Counsel to the Woonsocket Charter Review Commission