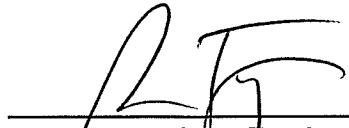



CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION MINUTES APPROVAL

Meeting Minute Date: March 12, 2018



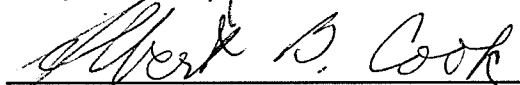
Rod Euterfas, Chairperson _____ **Date**



Gerald Benjamin _____ **Date**




Gary Bischof _____ **Date**



Albert Cook _____ **3/26/18**
_____ **Date**

Ron Lapp _____ **Date**

_____ **3/26/18**

Don Gregorius _____ **Date**

_____ **Date**

Fred Mayo _____ **Date**

John Quigley _____ **Date**

_____ **3/26/18**

Dare Thompson _____ **Date**

Laurel Sweeney _____ **Date**

**ULSTER COUNTY GOVERNMENT
MEETING MINUTES**

NAME OF GROUP: Charter Revision Commission

DATE: March 12, 2018

TIME: 4:30 PM

PLACE: Library Conference Room, 6th Floor
County Office Building, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rod Futerfas, Tom Kadgen, Gary Bischoff, Don Gregorius, Dare Thompson, John Quigley, Gerald Benjamin, Gary Bischoff and Albert Cook

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Laurel Sweeney, Ron Lapp, and Fred Mayo

OTHERS ATTENDING: Beatrice Havranek, Esq., Ulster County Attorney
Kristin Gumaer, Esq., Assistant Ulster County Attorney
Eric Stock, Paralegal, Ulster County Attorney's Office

1. Call the Meeting to Order:

Chairman Futerfas called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM

2. Minutes of the February 26, 2018 Meeting:

Chairman Futerfas asked what the pleasure of the Commission was with regard to approval of the minutes of the February 26, 2018 meeting.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the minutes

Commissioner Quigley seconded the motion

Chairman Futerfas called the question

All were in favor

Motion carried

3. Old Business:

Chairman Futerfas directed the Commission's attention to the sample language for selection of the Chairperson of the Redistricting Commission which was prepared by the County Attorney's Office at the request of the Commission.

Commissioner Bischoff asked if language could be added which would allow the Redistricting Commission to decide if they wanted to elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson or if they wanted to have a rotating Chairperson.

Commissioner Gregorius asked that if the Commissioner of the Redistricting Commission can be removed by a supermajority of the Commission that the term supermajority be defined.

A discussion was had.

The Commission agreed "supermajority" would be replaced with "2/3 majority."

Commissioner Thompson discussed the difficulty experienced by the prior Redistricting Commission surrounding election of a Chairperson. She explained the Charter didn't require the election of a Chairperson and the Redistricting Commission ended up having a rotating Chair. She further explained the difficulty they would have had if one person was in charge.

Commissioner Bischoff asked if language could be added which would allow the option to elect a Chairperson or have a rotating Chairperson.

Commissioner Thompson reiterated that she would like to see the redistricting Commission have the option of electing a Chairperson or have a rotating Chairperson.

Commissioner Quigley suggested electing a Chairperson and in the event a Chairperson could not be elected after two attempts then the Redistricting Commission would move to a rotation Chairperson.

Discussion continued.

The Commission agreed to add language to allow the Redistricting Commission to decide to either, elect a Chairperson or have a rotating Chairperson. This decision would be made by majority vote at the first meeting.

Commissioner Futerfas asked the commission if it thought language should be add identifying how the Redistricting Commission's first meeting should be convened and preside over.

A brief discussion was had.

The Commission agreed to mirror procedure already used in the Charter and have the County Executive call the Redistricting Commission's first meeting to order and presided over it, in the same manner he does for Charter Revision.

4. New Business:

Chairman Futerfas directed the Commission's attention to section C-10 F (2).

Commissioner Benjamin discussed prioritizing the criteria used for redistricting.

Chairman Futerfas told the Commission he felt the order of priority should be up to the Redistricting Commission.

The Commission looked at a sample of the New York City's Charter on their Districting Commission to see how they order priority.

Commissioner Benjamin noted using some of the criteria are easier to defend than others. He gave the example of keeping a neighborhood intact. He asked how you define neighborhood.

Chairman Futerfas asked how you define any of the criteria.

Commissioner Bischoff cited New York City's process.

Commissioner Benjamin explained it is easier to defend your actions when using the percentage guidelines, because they can be more easily defended.

Commissioner Bischoff suggested not giving a priority to the criteria.

Commissioner Kadgen agreed.

The Commission agreed to not prioritize the criteria and to add language which would require the Redistricting Commission to follow the criteria of C-10 A to the maximum extent practicable.

The Commission began discussing the dates for actions to be taken.

County Attorney Havranek suggested holding off on changing dates until her office prepared a timeline for the Commission.

The Commission agreed having a timeline would be very helpful.

5. Public Comment

Chairman Futerfas recognized Illona Ross who said she was a Kingston resident and she would be interested in obtaining copies of all of the documents the Commission had.

Chairman Futerfas informed her of the process for obtaining the documents.

6. Adjournment

Commissioner Kadgen made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner quigley seconded the motion.

Chairman Futerfas called the question.

All were in favor.

Chairman Futerfas adjourned the meeting at 5:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Stock
Ulster County Attorney's Office