



City of Tacoma

Charter Review Committee Minutes

February 5, 2024

5:30 p.m.

747 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402, Conference Room 220A

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 857 9094 1184

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/85790941184

AMENDED

Call to Order

Chair Wamback called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 12 - Nicholas Carr, Maricres Castro, Silong Chhun, Bryan Flint, Jason Gauthier, Andre Jimenez, Melissa Mallott, Latasha Palmer, Andrea Reay, Rebecca Stith, Stephen Wamback, and Lok Yin Wu

Absent: 3 – Katie Baird, Patrick Fischer, and Diamatris Winston

Committee Members Baird and Fischer arrived at 5:50 p.m.

All Committee Members attended virtually.

Welcome

At approximately 5:35 p.m., Chair Wamback welcomed the Committee Members and the guest speakers.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes for approval.

Panel Discussion – Form of Government

At approximately 5:37 p.m., Chair Wamback introduced the three-member panel for tonight’s meeting. He requested that guest speakers Andrew Neiditz, Derek Matheson, and Paul Roberts provide a brief introduction and overview of their experiences in different form of government to the Committee before opening the floor for questions.

Committee Members Baird and Fischer arrived here, at 5:50 p.m.

Neiditz, Matheson, and Roberts described their experiences working for both a strong Mayor and a Council/City Manager form of government, explaining why they were chosen to speak to the Committee.

The panel responded to Committee Member questions related to strengths and challenges of Tacoma’s unique form of government with a Council/City Manager system with a directly elected Mayor; transparency and accountability with regards to the role of the Mayor, City Council, and City Manager; performance standards in terms of hiring and selecting a City Manager; clear lines of authority between the different roles; public engagement; and communication and responsiveness of the different forms of government.

Break

The meeting recessed at 7:24 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

CRC Discussion – Form of Government

At approximately 7:35 p.m., discussion ensued on the form of government, and Chair Wamback opened the floor to the Committee for reflections from the guest speakers’ panel discussion.

The consensus among the Committee is that the panel appears to lean more towards the Council/City Manager form of government.

CRC Discussion

At approximately 7:57 p.m., Chair Wamback provided opening remarks for a conversation on administrative topics such as a public meeting, future CRC meetings, subcommittee formation, and the public comment section of the meeting.

Public Meeting

At approximately 7:59 p.m., Nicole Emery, City Clerk, presented the Committee with possible dates, locations, and capacity options available for a public meeting. Consensus of the Committee was to hold the meeting at the Tacoma Municipal Building as the location for the

Committee’s public outreach event. The Committee also agreed on February 26, 2024, as the date for the event.

Future Meetings

At approximately 8:06 p.m., Sonja Hallum, Executive Liaison, presented alternative timelines for future meetings, depending on when the Committee decides to form the subcommittees.

Motion: Reay moved to adopt Timeline B.

Seconded By: Carr.

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted by unanimous consent.

Chair Wamback requested the Committee confirm who will serve as Acting Chair while he is away.

Motion: Baird moved to confirm Reay as Acting Chair for the February 12, and February 15, 2024, meetings.

Seconded By: Carr.

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted by unanimous consent.

Subcommittees

At approximately 8:30 p.m., Chair Wamback reminded the group to resend their top priorities to him or staff as the formation of subcommittees will be discussed at the February 8, 2024, meeting.

Public Comment

At approximately 8:32 p.m., Chair Wamback proposed to move the public comment portion of the meeting towards the end of the meeting. Committee consensus was to keep public comment at the beginning of every CRC meeting agenda.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.



Stephen Wamback, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joan Taverna", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joan Taverna, City Clerk's Office