

Ramsey County Charter Commission
Monday, October 27, 2014

The Ramsey County Charter Commission meeting was held at the Ramsey County Public Works Facility, 1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive, Arden Hills, MN 55112, with the following members present:

	<u>Members present:</u>	<u>Members absent:</u>
District 1:	Joe Murphy Richard Sonterre	
District 2:	Jim Meyer Bob Benke	
District 3:	Randy Gustafson	Eric Haugee
District 4:	Peter Hendricks	Theresa Nix
District 5:	Wendy Underwood	VACANCY
District 6:	Robert Humphrey	
District 7:	Robert Bruton	Russell Miller
At Large:		Marvin Koppen Emily Samsel Beverly Apilkowski Fred Perez

Also present: Kyle Thomas, Director, Civil Division, County Attorney's Office
Jeff Stephenson, Assistant County Attorney
Bonnie Jackelen, County Manager's Office
Megan Haugen, Elections Office

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Members were Bob Benke, Richard Sonterre, Joe Murphy, Robert Humphrey, and Jim Meyer. The nominating committee met prior to the charter commission meeting, in order to nominate candidates for chair and vice-chair of the charter commission.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 p.m. by Chair Randy Gustafson.

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 27, 2014 AGENDA

The agenda was modified to include the election of officers for 2015.

Murphy moved as amended, seconded by Sonterre, to approve the October 27, 2014 agenda. Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2014 MINUTES

Murphy moved, seconded by Humphrey, to approve the minutes of February 3, 2014. Approved unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS/INPUT

No citizens were present to provide comments or input.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of, and possible comment on, the proposed 2015 County budget.

Chair Gustafson said that the link to the budget documents were sent to the charter commission members.

Bruton said that he could not open the documents.

Ms. Jackelen said the documents would be resent.

Bruton asked about this year's budget.

Gustafson stated that there were no substantive changes, as this is the second year of a two year budget, and that the board was still able to maintain a 0 percent levy increase.

Ms. Jackelen stated that there will be a public budget meeting on Monday, December 1st at 6:30 at the Roseville High School.

Gustafson asked if anyone had comments.

No comments were made by commission members.

Recognition of outgoing Commission members

Chair Gustafson thanked the commission members who had dedicated time to the Ramsey County Charter Commission.

Chair Gustafson recognized Peter Hendricks for his service for the Charter Commission.

Ms. Jackelen said that past meetings were long and frequent, and that the commission was a large time commitment. She stated that Peter Hendricks has been a reliable member of the Charter Commission. She stated that Russ Miller and Marv Koppen are the other Commission members that have reached their 8 years.

Chair Gustafson said that Hendrick's guidance was invaluable.

Benke stated that there were also many proposed charter changes.

Gustafson stated that those that have terms up in 2014 should reapply if they are interested.

Ms. Jackelen stated that several reapplied, and that there are four vacancies in districts 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Bruton asked how the Charter Commission reappoints members.

Ms. Jackelen says that she takes care of reappointments and that the announcements have been posted in several places including websites and in the Pioneer Press, and that applications will remain open until Monday, November 3rd. If there are no applicants for a certain district, applications will be received on a rolling basis.

Gustafson suggested that members meet with county commissioners to see if they had recommendations for candidates.

Election of Officers

Nominating committee chair Benke stated that the committee recommends Gustafson as chair, and Murphy as vice-chair.

Benke moved, seconded by Underwood, to nominate Gustafson as chair, and Murphy as vice-chair.

Gustafson asked for any nominations from the Charter Commission.

Murphy moved, seconded by Sonterre that nominations close.

Gustafson said that as chair, he will only call meetings when there is business to discuss.

The elections of Gustafson as chair and Murphy as vice chair were approved unanimously.

Discussion of 2014 (Potential) Charter Commission Meeting Dates

Potential meeting dates for 2015 dates will be on Monday, February 2nd, Monday May 4th, Monday, August 3rd, and Monday, November 2nd.

Benke moved, seconded by Murphy to approve meeting dates. Approved unanimously.

Ms. Jackelen asked if the AMC building in Saint Paul is convenient to members. Commission members stated that it was a good place to meet.

ADJOURNMENT

Murphy moved to adjourn, seconded by Benke. Approved unanimously. The Charter Commission was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board