

**CITY OF WINTER GARDEN
CHARTER REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2006**

The Winter Garden Charter Review Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Facilitator Marilyn Crotty at 6:30 p.m. at Tanner Hall, 29 West Garden Avenue, Winter Garden, Florida.

ATTENDANCE/ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Derek Blakeslee
Erma Dennard
Ed Lynch
Bert Valdes
Don Miller
Barbara Muzeni
Richard Napotnik

Members Absent:

Richard Hudson
Pamela Stewart

Facilitator:

Marilyn Crotty

Also Present:

A. Kurt Ardaman, City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney Dan Langley
Angee Grimmage, Assistant City Clerk

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Ms. Crotty welcomed Attorneys Ardaman and Langley.

Mr. Napotnik stated that at the last City Commission meeting the City Manager recommended to the City Commission that the committee appoint a spokesperson. The City Commission concurred. Ms. Crotty explained that at the first meeting it was the consensus of the committee that no chairperson would be selected. She suggested that the committee could designate a spokesperson at the end of the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 23, 2006

Mr. Lynch stated that on page two, bottom of section twelve under the *Qualifications for Candidates and Elected Officials* it reads "Ms. Crotty after listening to committee discussion, restated..." he stated that there should be an insert of the committee's consensus after the word "restated". Mr. Lynch also stated that on page three in the second paragraph under *Forfeiture of Office*, (first sentence beginning "Mr. Lynch") should be changed to "Mr. Lynch asked if attendance should be defined to clarify whether physical attendance should be required." It was the **consensus** of the committee that the minutes be approved with the stated corrections.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Miller read a letter from James Fleming Sr. a private citizen of West Orange County stating his recommended Charter changes.

Ms. Crotty suggested that all citizen letters be submitted to the City Clerk's office so that copies can be distributed for the committee to review. *A copy is on file with the Clerk's Office.*

Mr. Miller reported receiving a phone call from resident Joseph Skubas.

4. **DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

There was a discussion on the voter registration requirement not being immediate. Someone could live in a city but not change registration for a month or two. It was the **consensus** of the committee to leave it as it is.

It was the **consensus** of the committee to change *Qualifications for Candidates* and make it the same language as in *Forfeiture* stating "maintain residency and voter registration". Ms. Crotty suggested everyone review both and suggest any changes at the next meeting. Under *Forfeiture* of Office #4 was clarified by adding three regular consecutive meetings without being excused by the Commission.

There was discussion on *Judge of Qualifications* becoming part of Section 13. or remaining a separate section. The committee agreed a member charged with conduct constituting grounds for forfeiture may not vote on the charges against him/her. The attorneys were asked to develop language that assures due process.

In Section 14. *Prohibitions* under *Interference with Administration* it was the **consensus** of the committee to take out additional language "Nothing in the foregoing shall be construed to prohibit individual members of the commission from asking questions or gaining information from city employees."

It was the **consensus** of the committee to insert section 2.09 stating that "The city council may make investigations into the affairs of the city and the conduct of any city department, office, or agency and for this purpose may subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony, and require the production of evidence". Change was also made to the first sentence of *Interference with Administration* stating "Except for the purpose of inquiries and investigations" is changed to "Except for the purpose of an investigation". It was the **consensus** of the committee that Section 15 be deleted.

No consensus was reached regarding Section 16. *Vacancies in Commission*. There appeared to be agreement that an election should be held, but the Committee did not determine what amount of time remaining in the term would trigger an election. Ms. Grimmage was asked to research and report back on the minimum time required to conduct a special election.

5. **CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

It was the **consensus** of the committee that a spokesperson would be chosen before each event as needed. This way a person will be picked based on interest and knowledge of the issue or subject.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.