



RAVENNA CITY COUNCIL

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RAVENNA CHARTER COMMISSION MINUTES Ravenna City Council Chambers Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 6:00pm

The Charter Review Commission Meeting was held in person and was called to order at 6:02pm.

Roll Call

The following Commission Members were present: Chairperson Dirk Remley, Vice Chair Mark E. Smith, Antoinette Austin, Carmen Laudato, Denna Tannert, Gail Jones-Nemeth, Jonathan P. Jennings, Rory R. Becker, Sharon Spencer, Steven Farhat, Michael Smith II.

Also in attendance: Clerk of Council, Chelsea Gregor; Law Director, Frank Cimino, Councilmember Paul Moskun

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the June 1, 2022, meeting minutes by Mark E. Smith, 2nd by Sharon Spencer- **All Ayes**

Approval of the Agenda

- Motion to approve the June 15, 2022, meeting minutes by Mark E. Smith, 2nd by Carmen Laudato- **All Ayes**

Charter Reading: Refine Section 10.5- Virtual meetings Article IV- Mayor

- Dirk asked if there were any revisions regarding the addition of Virtual Meetings and Gail stated that she had put some language together that the Commission has.
- The Commission took a break to get a group photo for the City website.
- Dirk invited the Commission to attend the July 5th Council meeting where the Charter revisions will officially be presented in ordinance form to Council.
- Gail asked how Council will get the revisions and it was stated that legislation with the changes will be submitted to Council.
- Dirk asked if there was any public comment. Mr. Moskun stated that it has been a good educational process to witness the Charter Review Commission in person.
- Dirk said that there has been good debate and it has been very respectful.
- Antoinette stated that it was a diverse group with different cultural and professional backgrounds, adding that she liked the experience.
- Sharon stated that it was a different experience than being on Council.
- Carmen said that she has a compliment for Ravenna and that she has seen the respect between Council and Administration, especially on social media, where there is a sense of community and that they are pulling in the same direction.

- Michael stated that serving on the Commission has opened his eyes to City functions and that it has been a great experience that he will share with others.
- Steven stated that he served on the Commission in 2017 and 2022, and that the 2022 Commission has been more efficient with their use of time management.
- Denna stated that the Commission picked a good model to go through the Charter with.
- Steven agreed that it was good to go through the Charter at the first meeting to show how the meetings will function.
- Dirk stated that he would encourage more email feedback from Commission members.
- Gail stated a smaller Commission will help citizen involvement and to be more efficient.
- Mark stated that he was proud of the professional Commission group and that he was impressed with everyone.

Interview: Law Director, Frank Cimino

- Mr. Cimino stated that he had no real issues with any of the Charter revisions and would hope that Council members would respect the efforts that the Commission has put into the changes and would vote to move them forward to the ballot.
- Steven clarified that the revisions will be passed through to Council first and then on to the public to vote on.
- Deena asked if there should be any reference to the submitted 2022 suggestions that the 2022 Commission received. Mr. Cimino stated that all that needs to be said is that the Commission discussed the suggestions and that they chose not to move forward with the changes.
- Carmen stated that working together makes a difference.
- Dirk asked if everyone was good to move forward with the submitted Charter Review revisions and there were no objections.
 - Motion to approve all the Charter revisions to Council by Carmen Laudato, 2nd by Mark E. Smith- **All Ayes**
- Dirk said thank you and stated that he enjoyed working with everyone.
 - Motion to adjourn at 6:38pm by Mark E. Smith, 2nd by Gail Jones-Nemeth- **All Ayes**