

Draft Minutes – Charter Commission 14 July 2022

Chairman Heisler called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Roll call: Member Prichard excused absence.

Agenda approved Unanimously without discussion.

Minutes of May 12 meeting approved unanimously without discussion.

Public comments. David Ludescher. Concerns about zoning ordinance and City Council interpretation of charter. state law. Ordinance did not pass, but City Council decided it did pass because state law preempts the Charter. Charter Commission must assert its authority to ensure adherence to the Charter.

Ben Martig: Did not see Mr. Ludescher's memos to the Commission. Issues relating to the Charter should be open to the public. Questioned whether Mr. Ludescher represents or has represented any party related to the issue.

Discussion of Charter section 4.5.

Opinion of lawyer (Margaret Neville) commissioned to render opinion on the conflict between state law and the Charter.

Lawyer had not considered the Moto Cusi case but submitted a supplementary opinion which did not change her opinion on the conflict between the state statute and the City Charter.

The Commission has not had sufficient time to adequately consider the opinion; the absence of Commissioner Prichard also detracts from proper consideration. If there is to be an amendment to the Charter, careful consideration by all members is needed. There is not any time pressure.

Decision: Allocate additional funds to Invite MS Neville to next meeting to clarify her thinking.

The Organization and Information Committee dissolved; Commission members will individually study the Charter. If there are areas which are unclear, submit questions to Chairman Heisler who will forward to MS Neville for her to address at the next meeting.

New Business. Excused absence of Commissioner Prichard unanimously approved.

Gratitude expressed to Commissioner Schotzko who is resigning.

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.