

Record of Proceedings

VILLAGE OF MINERVA PARK CHARTER COMMISSION

Minutes of the

August 8th, 2019

Commission Meeting

Chairwoman Conger called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.

Roll: Chairwoman Conger, Members Harker, Silverman-Starr, Wolf, Bell, Lewis, Townsend, and Park-Curry. Member Busick arrived at 6:50.

Attending: Councilwoman Hughes

Minutes:

- Member Park-Curry moved to approve the 7/25 meeting minutes, Member Bell seconded. All in favor.

Charter Printing

- The Commission reviewed the prototype hard copy of the Charter provided by Inskeep printing, paying particular attention to color, cover, price, and paper weight.
- The Commission decided on green for the cover, but was undecided as to what shade of green. Member Harker suggested a variegated green to evoke feelings of the Village's beautiful flora. The Commission did not agree.
- Member Park-Curry explained that the Board of Elections required only one copy per household. The Commission discussed the logistics of counting homes in the new development.
- Member Busick suggested that Councilwoman Hughes sit at the Commission table so as to hear better. She replied that her current seat was fine.
- Member Silverman-Star provided a selection of greens to choose from for the cover.
- Member Park Curry explained that due to nature of the printing process, the Charter will have an extra blank page. She suggested that it be filled with an introduction or letter. Member Bell said that it might be a good idea to use Member Busick's letter, as it did an exceptional job of summarizing action and intent with regards to the Charter.

Community Outreach

- The Commission reviewed Member Park-Curry's summation of the sections of the Charter dealing with Council composition, powers, responsibilities, etc.
- Member Bell suggested that it would be useful to add a quick explanation at the beginning summarizing the section and what it establishes.
- The Commission reviewed Member Lewis's summation of the sections of the Charter concerning the role, powers, and responsibilities of the Village Administrator.
- Member Busick questioned the reference to the Village Administrator's compilation and presentation of financial reports to the Council. Member Lewis explained that her language was almost a direct quote from the Charter itself.
- The Commission reviewed Member Bell's summation of the sections of the Charter concerning the role, power, and responsibilities of Mayor.

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- Chairwoman Conger asked if it would be better to remove the reference to a "weak" Mayor as that might be confusing for readers unaware of the full connotations of the word in the context of governmental forms and powers.
- Member Busick suggested that, for readability, terms requiring definition (such as "supermajority") be changed to reflect the actual definition ("...a vote of 5 out of 7 Council members").
- The Commission reviewed Member Busick's summation of the sections of the Charter concerning the role, makeup, powers, and responsibilities of Administrative departments. The Commission gave member Busick notes on how he might better condense the summation for easier readability.
- The Commission reviewed Member Wolf's summation of the sections of the Charter concerning transitional provisions. Member Wolf explained that he did not like the document as currently written, and planned to reconstruct it as a timeline.
- The Commission discussed the timeline for posting the articles to the website.

New Business:

- Member Busick suggested placing signs around the Village.
- Member Wolf asked if it would be possible to disband the Charter Commission so that the members could more effectively speak to the benefits of the Charter.
- Member Harker suggested a single page pamphlet summing up the five largest changes between the current form of MP governance and that laid out by the Charter.
- Members Park-Curry and Wolf asked if it might be useful to have a member (or members) at Candidate Night to answer questions specifically related to the Charter.
- Member Wolf moved to adjourn. Member Bell seconded. All in favor.

The Commission adjourned at 8:04pm.