

SAUGUS CHARTER COMMISSION
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
OF
JANUARY 29, 2009

The fifty-second meeting of the Saugus Charter Commission was held on Thursday, January 29, 2009. The meeting was held in the Town Hall Auditorium. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Peter Manoogian, at 7:30 P.M.

STEP 6: TEST AND EVALUATE

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Eight members of the nine member committee were present at roll call: Cam Cicolini, Eugene Decareau, Karla J. de Steuben, Albert W. Diotte, Jr., Joan Fowler, Peter Manoogian, Sr., Debra Panetta, and Thomas Stewart.

The Chairman noted that there were more than enough for a quorum, and noted that Ms. Cote would be arriving later.

Karen Cote arrived at 8:05 P.M.

READING OF MINUTES OF LAST TWO MEETING

- **(January 24, 2009) – Focus Group Meeting**
- **(January 22, 2009) – Regular Meeting**

Minutes were distributed to all Commission Members for review before the next meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (January 15, 2009)

Ms. Panetta made a motion to accept the minutes of January 15, 2009.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

The motion passed **8-0**

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- **We are now in Step 6**

The Chairman noted that the Commission is now on Step 6: Test and Evaluate, stating that it began on January 24th with the Focus Groups. The Commission will be putting it out to the public in February for the March hearing. The two questions that have to be addressed in Step 6 are:

- **Does it work?**
- **Does it meet the criteria established?**

The Chairman suggested that Members go back to the criteria list and see how well the proposed charter matches up to those 28 criteria.

- **Saturday Morning – Feedback**

The Chairman stated that he was very pleased with the Saturday morning meeting, noting that he would give all Members a chance to give their feedback and comments.

- **Acknowledgements**

The Chairman again gave thanks to the Town Hall staff, Mr. Wright, Mr. Garabedian, Sue Dunn, Pace’s, Stop & Shop, Shaw’s and Kane’s Donuts. Mr. Manoogian went on to say that the real thanks go to over 50 residents that participated. He also thanked Mr. Curran for his participation.

Mr. Decareau and Ms. Panetta both noted the amount of co-operation they had seen amongst the members of each focus group. Mr. Decareau also stated how pleased he was to see the Superintendent of Schools come to Saugus for the meeting.

- **Proposed plan for the information gathered**

The Chairman noted that the Clerk had transcribed the group observations / questions from Saturday’s meeting and included them in Members’ folders, along with copies of the individual response sheets. The Chairman advised Members that he would include discussion of these responses in next meeting’s agenda.

- **Need for Outreach to extend opportunity to those who wanted to attend but could not or who had a conflict**

The Members agreed to schedule their next meeting for 6:45 pm, to allow time, at the beginning of the meeting, to those who were not able to attend.

The Chairman suggested meeting on February 12, 2009, at 6:45pm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Members completed analysis of the draft, prior to it going to the printer.

A recess was called at 9:33

Meeting resumed at 9:46

Members began analysis of the cover letter, and completed same.

NEW BUSINESS

- **VOTE on Preliminary Draft after reading and editing**

Ms. Panetta made a motion to approve the draft that has been reviewed this evening, as amended, as the Preliminary Report of the Charter Commission to be published in the Saugus Advertiser on February 26, 2009, with a Public Hearing to be held on March 12, 2009.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

Roll-call vote as follows:

Cam Cicolini	yes	Joan Fowler	yes
Karen Cote	yes	Peter Manoogian	yes
Eugene Decareau	yes	Debra Panetta	yes
Karla de Steuben	yes	Thomas Stewart	yes
Albert Diotte	yes		

The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Mr. Decareau corrected erroneous information given at the last meeting.

Mr. Decareau made a motion to accept the balance of \$18,144.39, broken down in three categories: \$9,750 for the Consultant, a balance of \$4,364.37 from the original \$5,000, and a balance from the \$25,000, after taking consultant fee and payroll, is \$3,830.02.

The Chairman seconded the motion

The motion passed **9-0**

Ms Panetta made a motion to post next meeting for February 12, 2009, 6:45pm, in the Town Hall Auditorium.

The Chairman seconded the motion

The motion passed **9-0**

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Cicolini moved to adjourn at 10:30 P.M.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

The motion passed **9-0**

APPROVED ON _____

SUBMITTED BY _____