

SAUGUS CHARTER COMMISSION
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
OF
MARCH 12, 2009

The fifty-sixth meeting of the Saugus Charter Commission was held on Thursday, March 12, 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 7: COMMUNICATE THE SOLUTION

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

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

Cam Cicolini was absent from the Meeting.

The Chairman noted that there were more than enough for a quorum.

Mr. Manoogian read the copy of the legal notice for the Public Hearing that had appeared in the newspaper.

Mr. Diotte made a motion to table the Public Hearing.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

The motion passed **8-0**

Ms. Panetta made a motion to table the reading of last Meeting's Minutes, and the acceptance of the Minutes of February 19, 2009.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

The motion passed **8-0**

The Chairman noted that he was going to dispense with the Chairman's Report, Treasurer's Report, Committee Report, and Correspondence until after the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing on Preliminary Report and Draft Charter per Ch 43B S 9 (b)

The Chairman address the audience, noting that if they wished to speak, they must sign in with the Clerk, and would speak in the order of the sign-up sheet. He also noted that there were a number of hand-outs at the back of the room: The Preliminary Report / Proposed Charter, comparison charts, and Rules for Public Expression.

- **Reading of rules of public hearing**

- The Chairman read the Rules for Public Expression that were adopted by the Charter Commission on January 12, 2008.

- **Section overview by Members**

Members gave a brief overview of the Article that they had drawn numbers for last Meeting as follows:

- Article 1 Joan Fowler
- Article 2 Eugene Decareau
- Article 3 Karla de Steuben
- Article 4 Thomas Stewart
- Article 5 Karen Cote
- Article 6 Debra Panetta
- Article 7 Peter Manoogian
- Article 8 Albert Diotte
- Article 9 Mr. Curran (in Ms. Cicolini’s absence)

- **Members of the Public spoke in the following order:**

- Ray Sheridan 157 Winter Street (Pensions)
- Everett Millea 142 Main Street (Accountability / Budget)
- Dennis Toto 5 Charnwood Road (Conflict of Interest / Elections)
- Gerri Scarbo 35 Lynfells Pkwy (Recorded in favor)
- Maureen Dever 3 Atherton Street (Budget / Conflict of Interest)
- Janice Jarosz 5 Wilson Street (Assembly – Precinct / At-Large)
- Nick Nicosia 7 Hull Drive (Constables)

The Chairman asked the Clerk to make a note to consider the Constable provision.

- Roger Sacilotto 2 Limewoods Dr. (School / Town Budget)
- Rick Smith 68 Lynnfells Pkwy (Public Input / Conflict of Interest)
- Ann Devlin 36 Pleasant Street (Recorded in favor)
- Andrew Russo 52 Hesper Street (Elections)
- Michael Serino 54 Gates Road (Town Employees / Assembly)
- Peter Rossetti 6 Summit Avenue (Larger Print)

Recess was called at 9:40 pm.

Meeting resumed at 9:45 pm.

- Josephine Grella 106 Lincoln Ave (Understandable / Clear)
- Nick Nicosia 7 Hull Drive (Need to Educate Public)

Mr. Stewart made a motion to continue the Public Hearing to Thursday, March 19, 2009, at 7:30 pm.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

The motion passed **8-0**

The Chairman noted that the General Counsel for the State Ethics Commission is scheduled to attend the March 19th Meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None at this time.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Decareau made a motion to authorize payment of \$1900 to Mr. Curran for the month of March.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

The motion passed **8-0**

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Stewart, Timeline Committee, reported that the Commission is on track, and firmly into Step 7.

Mr. Decareau made a motion to take the Minutes of February 26 and February 19 off the table.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

The motion passed **8-0**

READING OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (February 26, 2009)

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

ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (February 19, 2009)

Ms. Panetta made a motion to accept the minutes of February 19, 2009.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

The motion passed **8-0**

CORRESPONDENCE

- **Approval Letter from Attorney General Martha Coakley**

The Chairman read the introduction to the letter from Martha Coakley, stating that “the proposed charter does not conflict with the Constitution or laws of the Commonwealth and on this basis we approve it.”

The Chairman went on to note several comments for the Commission’s consideration in fashioning the final report. He asked Members to review the document before the next meeting, and highlight areas they may want to consider.

- **Letter submitted by Saugus School Committee**

The Chairman referred to a letter received by the School Committee, titled “Clarification re: Proposed Charter.”

Mr. Stewart made a motion to invite the entire School Committee, and the Superintendent, to come to the Charter Commission Meeting on March 19th.

The Chairman seconded the motion.

The motion passed **8-0**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Next meeting – March 19, 2009.**
The next meeting has already been posted.

MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS / MOTIONS

Ms. Cote thanked everyone that participated this evening, and invited the public to attend next week’s Meeting.

The Chairman confirmed the date of May 3rd as the date the final report must go to the Selectmen with Mr. Curran. He noted that the Commission would want to finish at least a week before that.

Mr. Curran reviewed the process between the preliminary report and final report, marking changes, going one page at a time, and making sure all changes have been completed.

The Chairman stated that next week, after the Public Hearing is closed, Members will set their schedule for March and early April.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Diotte made a motion to adjourn at 10:24 pm.
The Chairman seconded the motion.
The motion passed **8-0**

APPROVED ON _____

SUBMITTED BY _____

- | |
|---|
| <p>Issues to Revisit</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Filling a vacancy on the School Committee and the Select Board, and the possibility of a “runner-up” provision 2. Add language to 2-2(b) stating assembly president to step down when speaking on issue 3. In 2-4, omit “compensation” (also for School Committee and Select Board) 4. Move the polling date to the first Tuesday following the third Monday in April. 5. Page 15, section (b), first line – delete “and clerk” and in the last line, delete “and another one of its members to serve as clerk of the select board” |
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- 6. (Bottom of page 17), need to add “from a list of three names submitted by the conservation commission”**
- 7. Section 1-8(b), definition of “emergency” - add language that a copy of the written statement would be filed at the Town Clerk’s Office within 7 days.**
- 8. Section 6-3(a), second line – change “consent” to “consist” to read: “which shall consist of nine members.” In the last line, include language that the ordinance shall specify a term not to exceed three years.**
- 9. Section 6-4(a), last line – add word “present” to read: “until all persons present who desire to be heard...”**
- 10. Pages 27-28, Sections 7-5(c) and 7-6, change “within 5 days” to “within 10 days”**
- 11. Page 28, Section 7-5(d), clarify language beginning with “If the assembly fails to act...”**
- 12. Consider the Constable provision**