



City of Santa Rosa

City Charter Review Committee Regular Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

5:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Cisco called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Present 12 - Chair Patti Cisco, Committee Member Scott Bartley, Committee Member Christine Byrne, Committee Member Dan Condrón, Committee Member Jazmin Gudino, Committee Member Danny Martínez, Committee Member Chris Mazzia, Committee Member Ernesto Olivares, Committee Member Logan Pitts, Committee Member Lisa Badenfort, Committee Member Mark Walsh, and Committee Member Karen Weeks

Absent 9 - Committee Member Adriana Arrizon, Committee Member Annie Barbour, Committee Member Abigail Cunningham, Committee Member Ana Diaz, Committee Member Jen Klose, Committee Member Brian Ling, Committee Member Ron Miller, Committee Member Evette Minor, and Committee Member Jocelyn Villalobos

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

No public comments were made.

Committee Member Minor joined the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NONE.

4. SCHEDULED ITEMS

Committee member Diaz joined the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

4.1 EQUITY PRINCIPLES

In this, the second meeting of the Charter Review Committee, City Staff will provide a presentation on the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion, both as a lens through which the Committee may undertake its work, as well as an introduction to what may be possible Charter revisions to be considered by the Committee.

Attachments: [Presentation](#)
[10 Priorities for Advancing Racial Equity Through the ARPA](#)
[Sonoma County Advisory Redistricting Commission Equity Principles](#)
[Prioritizing Community Values – Case Study City of Oakland](#)
[Presentation REVISED \(Uploaded 12-1-2021\)](#)

Socorro Shiels, Diversity, Equity, and Equal Employment Officer, presented information on the City of Santa Rosa's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) journey with SEED Collaborative, information to help the Committee develop an equity lens for their work, and answered questions from the Committee Members.

Committee Member Ling joined the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gregory Fearon spoke on the importance of using a DEI lens when reviewing the Charter work that needs to be done.

Annette Arnold spoke asking that future meetings have specific times noted on the agenda, and suggested there be a neighborhood contact for every neighborhood in the city.

Committee discussion ensued on how to develop a set of principles to be used as a lens for the Committee, using the County redistricting principles as a starting point, and keeping this issue as a standing agenda item as the Committee goes through the process.

Consensus was made to use the County redistricting principles and norms as the lens with the understanding principles may evolve as the Committee work continues.

Committee Member Klose joined the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

This item was received and filed.

4.2 SUMMARY OF COUNCIL TOPICS

At the Committee's request, the City Attorney's Office will provide a presentation clarifying the topics on which the City Council have recommended consideration. In that presentation, the City Attorney's

Office will identify which of the topics proposed by the Council would require a Charter amendment for implementation and which might be addressed by City ordinance or resolution.

Attachments: [Presentation](#)
 [Presentation REVISED \(Uploaded 12-1-2021\)](#)

City Attorney Sue Gallagher and Assistant City Attorney Rob Jackson, presented a review of the following topics recommended by Council for the Committee's consideration:

- Directly elected at-large Mayor
- Ranked choice voting
- Police Auditor/Citizen Oversight Commission
- Council Compensation
- Climate Change
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Excise Taxes
- Regulation of rental housing
- Procurement policy reforms
- Board and Commission quorums
- Removal of Mayor or Council Member for misconduct
- Two year budget process

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Leadem spoke proposing the Committee look at the rules for referendums and initiatives that are currently in place.

Committee discussion ensued and it was decided the Committee would focus on the items that require a Charter amendment and to not memorialized in the Charter the items that can be achieved by an ordinance of the Council. A majority of the Committee suggested they focus first on the issues of council compensation, ranked choice voting, and a directly elected Mayor.

This item was received and filed.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS - NONE.

6. WRITTEN AND/OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS - NONE.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. A primer on adopting an ordinance versus making an amendment to the Charter.
2. Equity Principles
3. Discussion on which item of council compensation, ranked choice voting, and a directly elected Mayor will move forward first for Committee consideration.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Chair Cisco adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Approved on: December 15, 2021
/s/ Stephanie A. Williams, City Clerk