



Charter Review Commission (CRC) Regular Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2021

1. Call to Order – 4:02pm

2. Roll Call

In Attendance: Maureen, Kevin, Patty, Dave, Sharon, Tony, Paul, David, Anne Marie, Bill, Bob, Jane, Kyle, Tom, Dick, Janet, Liz, Olivia

Members of the Public: Randy Gaylord, Rhonda Peterson, Minor Lile, Brenda Asterino, John Holding, Beachwood, Michelline Halliday, Jean/Michael Peterson, Milene Henley, Amy Vira, Alexandra Gayek, Carl de Boer

3. Approval of Minutes of 4/28/21 – Minutes approved.

4. Town Halls scheduled for June 1 & 2, from 4-6pm both days. CRC is on the SJCC agenda for June 8 – no time set yet.

Goal for this meeting is final recommendations.

5. Committee Report – Elections / Ranked Choice Voting:

Tony shared his screen and presented: 7 items - Items 1-5 are non-action items.

Jane spoke briefly about Item 6, RCV.

Discussion on Items 1-5.

Discussion on Item 7 – Tom’s concern about not sufficient election observing.

Motion by Bob to vote to bring Item 7 for discussion before the full CRC - Friendly amendment – “designated person”

Motion passed. 2 abstentions - Dick & Kyle.

6. Committee Report – Governance:

Dave Anderson shared his screen and presented.

Clarifications from Randy Gaylord w/ some Q&A.

Bob O’Connell 2 motions:

Motion #1: To reject recommendation #2 - Sect. 2.10 – legislative and executive authority being in the SJCC - as a possible amendment – residual executive authority would be all that remained with the SJCC.

Discussion.

Motion passed. 1 opposed - David Dehlendorf; 1 abstention – Olivia Roseberry

Motion #2: To accept #4 – combining 11, 12 & 13 - taking out “immediately” and putting in “promptly” #13 – Sections 4.10 & 7.20 – add “the” before the titles of Auditor and County Manager.

Bob withdrew his motion related to 10 & 11.

Current motion on the table: To accept as an amendment to the Charter the proposal made under #4 – 4.10, and to 13 – 7.20 – and accept it with the word “the” in those two places.

David & Kevin: Better to split these two questions:

1. Motion on Section 4.10 – David D seconded.

Vote: Motion passed with unanimous support.

2. Motion on Section 7.20 – Janet seconded.

Discussion.

Bob amended his motion to include Randy’s recommendation. Janet seconded this as well.

Vote: Motion passed. 1 opposed – Kyle; 3 abstentions – Dick, Liz & Kevin

Dave: 2 issues that should be recommendations to SJCC:

1. Budgets should be online
2. County Manager should hire a deputy

No specific language on these yet.

Kevin: Let’s table these for now until specific language comes from the committee.

Dave agreed. Dave shared screen and presented on more items not being put forward.

Issue of evaluating strengths/weaknesses of the SJCC – they didn’t have time or a way to do that.

Issue of self-governance for different islands – opinion from Prosecuting Attorney’s office was discussed quite a bit. Current Charter doesn’t limit islands from creating self-governments. Decided not to propose an amendment.

7. Public Comment:

Alexandra Gayek (Orcas): Pubic participation – this CRC has set a good example for how to interact with the public – people can expect a response even if it doesn’t happen in the moment.

Brenda Asterino (Lopez): Applauds our diversity intent and progress. Evaluating strengths/weaknesses of the SJCC, if not us, who? Who would citizens go to in order to see this done if not the CRC? Appalled by the lack of separation of powers.

Closed public comment.

Discussion continued:

David D: The budget is available online – it's hard to find but it's there. Thanked Alexandra for her comment – not sure if any of the committees dealt with that – a very worthy thing to take under consideration.

Evaluate strengths/weaknesses – didn't know if it was to address the structure or the individuals. It's the CRC's responsibility to evaluate the structure. Didn't want to go there with individuals – we have two new SJCC members now.

Kevin: IF there are 5 members who want to add some language on the issue of response from the SJCC, we can revisit that after we get through the committee reports.

Discussion around SJCC's ability to levying taxes, and SJCC responsiveness to public comments.

Bob asked if there were five people who agree with taking this up.

CRC members should email Kevin and Olivia if they want to bring this up for a vote.

8. New Business – Two items:

1. New administrator coming on board – Kyle Loring will help us with research and drafting for \$4,900 flat fee.
2. Vote on Ranked Choice Voting:

Motion by Anne Marie to discuss it at a future CRC meeting, seconded by David D.

A minimum of five CRC members in favor to bring a vote to discuss a topic at a future CRC meeting – to get it on the agenda. The CRC will go through the committee reports first.

Vote: Motion passes. 4 opposed – Tom, Paul, Tony & Bill

ADJOURNMENT – Adjourned at 6:21pm

Sharon Abreu
CRC Member

Minutes were approved by consensus at the May 12, 2021 Regular Meeting