



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved TASK FORCE ON STRUCTURE OF CITY GOVERNMENT

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

6:00 PM

Madison Municipal Building, Room 153
215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

POSSIBLE QUORUM OF THE COMMON COUNCIL EXISTS AT THIS MEETING

[50732](#)

Documents related to the Task Force on the Structure of City Government

THE TASK FORCE MAY SUSPEND THE RULES TO STAND INFORMALLY AND ALLOW FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION AND ENGAGEMENT OF ANY AGENDA ITEM

Called to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 9 - Paul E. Skidmore; David Ahrens; Rebecca Kemble; Ronald M. Trachtenberg; John E. Rothschild; Roger Goodwin; Justice M. Castañeda; Maggie Northrop and Eileen Harrington

Absent: 2 - Sheri Carter and Eric S. Upchurch

Also Present: Brenda Konkel, Grant Foster, Karen Kapusta-Pofahl, Karl Van Lith, Linette Rhodes and Keith Furman

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Rothschild, second by Goodwin, to approve minutes of February 6, 2019. Motion passed on voice vote.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion by Kemble, seconded by Northrop to suspend the rules and stand informally on items 6 and 8 to allow for public discussion and engagement of those items. Motion passed on voice vote with Skidmore voting nay.

4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals for this meeting.

Note: At this point, the Chair took Items 9, 7 and 8 out of order

5. REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES, INCLUDING:

Prior to item 5, the chair asked that the vice chair take over chairing the meeting. At this point, Justice Castañeda, provided a summary of the Boards, Commissions, and Committees Subcommittee Report and lifted up issues the Subcommittee thought important to the TFOGS consideration of issues raised by the authorizing Resolution. He also discussed some possible recommendations to address these issues that were identified in the report.

6. INITIAL DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FULL TFOGS TO DECIDE REGARDING BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

After giving the summary of the Boards, Commissions, and Committee written report, a straw poll was taken regarding several key questions related to the Common Council.

A. Should the City move to some form of "lead committee" structure?

Yes – 8
No – None
Don't know – none

B. Does the TFOGS support the concept of an Office of Resident Engagement and Neighborhood Support as a separate department.

Yes – 7
No - None
Don't know – one

7. REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE COMMON COUNCIL INCLUDING:

The Chair asked that the Chair of the Common Council Subcommittee give that Subcommittee's Report First. John Rothschild provided a summary of the Subcommittee's written report and noted areas where the subcommittee reach consensus and where it did not. He also pointed out one source not mentioned in the report, which was a summary he prepared of overall costs associated with Madison's Common Council compared to costs of other Cities' Councils.

8. INITIAL DISCUSSION OF SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS

After giving the summary of the Common Council Subcommittee's written report, a straw poll was taken regarding several key questions related to the Common Council.

A. Should the City switch to a full-time Council?

Yes - None
No - 5
Don't know - 3

B. Should the City continue with geographic districts, move to at-large districts, or use a hybrid form of representation?

Geographic districts - 6
At Large - 0
Hybrid - 2

9. DISCUSSION OF PLAN FOR FORMULATING REPORT TO THE COMMON COUNCIL AND CONCLUDING THE WORK OF THE TASK FORCE BY JULY 1, 2019, INCLUDING:

The Chair discussed the plan for formulating a report to the Common Council and concluding the work of the Task Force by July 1, 2019, including that on March 27 the Task Force would begin making decisions on certain recommendations, with more decisions to follow on April 9. The Chair hopes to begin drafting the TFOGS Report to the Common Council after the April 9 meeting with an initial draft ready by May 1. Engagement would take place in May with a finalization of the TFOGS Report at its June 11 meeting. During this Discussion, the chair of the Communications Subcommittee discussed the status of public engagement ideas the subcommittee is discussing.

10. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL TFOGS DISTRICT REPORTS INTERVIEW

The TFOGS approved of having Rebecca Kemble and Justice Castañeda appear on the District Reports show to discuss the TFOGS.

11. FUTURE MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

Discussed above in Item 9.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Castaneda, second by Trachtenberg to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.