



City of Madison

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

Thursday, May 30, 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

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Keith Furman; Ronald M. Trachtenberg; John E. Rothschild; Roger Goodwin; Justice M. Castañeda; Maggie Northrop and Eileen Harrington

Absent: 4 - Paul E. Skidmore; Syed Abbas; Rebecca Kemble and Eric S. Upchurch

Eric Upchurch arrived at 6:34 p.m.

Others present: Alder Samba Baldeh, Karl van Lith, Dave Foust, Mike May

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Rothschild, second by Goodwin to approve the minutes. Passed by voice vote.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this meeting.

4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals at this meeting.

By consent, the TFOGS took up items 6 and 7 next.

5. UPDATE FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Maggie Northrop and Eric Upchurch gave the report of the Communications Subcommittee. The Subcommittee met on Tuesday, May 28, and at least 8 persons or organizations were interested in serving as liaisons. Several more contacted Eric and wanted information. The plan is to pay the liaisons a set

amount to act as liaisons and an additional \$5 each to the liaison and the survey taker. Eric had looked at the data to choose the city districts with the least public participation. The Subcommittee hopes to meet soon to choose the liaisons and get that work started. The survey would also be distributed more widely and the results tabulated. The Subcommittee also is planning an open house, likely in late August.

Justice Castañeda, Eileen Harrington, and John Rothschild were named as additional alternates to the Communications Subcommittee, pursuant to an earlier delegation of authority.

Members of the TFOGS thanked the Subcommittee and particularly Eric Upchurch for their work on this.

6. DISCUSSION OF STAFF SURVEY DISTRIBUTION WITH KARL VAN LITH

Karl van Lith appeared to speak about the survey of city employees who worked with committees. He explained that the survey got about a 38% return rate, which is not bad for internal surveys. Justice Castañeda explained that he had some initial concerns that the survey should have gone to more people and gotten a larger response, but upon reflection, he thought the survey tended to support the conclusions reached by the subcommittee, and was sufficient. Some of the findings noted were the large number of respondents who either did not like the BCC work or thought their BCC lacked a clear purpose. There were also a number of comments on BCC using up too much of city staff time. One issue the TFOGS has not looked into is the cost to the city of so many BCC.

The BCC Subcommittee will be setting up a meeting and inviting those who were willing to say more to testify. To avoid quorum issues, the TFOGS Chair (pursuant to an earlier delegation of authority) appointed Keith Furman and Eileen Harrington as additional alternates to the BCC Subcommittee.

**7. DISCUSSION OF ROLE OF HOW 311 SYSTEM COULD IMPACT RESIDENT
ENGAGEMENT**

Dave Foust of City IT gave a presentation on the city's plan for a 311 system. The city has selected ICMA as the consultant to study the nature and costs of a robust, multi-channel system. The report is expected later this year. Alder Baldeh also spoke to the TFOGS. The power point presented by Mr. Foust has been added to the TFOGS record.

**8. DISCUSSION OF WHETHER TFOGS WANTS TO SUGGEST POSSIBLE SURVEY
QUESTIONS TO BE CITY'S PERFORMANCE EXCELLENT PROGRAM**

This item was referred to a future meeting.

9. FUTURE MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

Members were reminded to get their availability to Mike May or John Strange.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Goodwin, second by Rothschild to adjourn. The meeting adjourned on a voice vote at 7:16 pm