



City of Madison

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

Tuesday, August 13, 2019

6:00 PM

Room 206, MMB
215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

RON TRACHTENBERG MAY APPEAR BY PHONE

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

Called to Order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: 6 - Paul E. Skidmore; Keith Furman; Ronald M. Trachtenberg; John E. Rothschild; Roger Goodwin and Maggie Northrop

Absent: 5 - Syed Abbas; Rebecca Kemble; Justice M. Castañeda; Eric S. Upchurch and Eileen Harrington

Ron Trachtenberg appeared by phone.

Justice Castañeda arrived at 6:05 p.m.

Keith Furman left at 7:22 p.m.

Also present: Alder Grant Foster, Linette Rhodes, Sue Hoppenberg, City Attorney Michael May, Assistant City Attorney John Strange

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2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes to approve.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this meeting.

4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals at this meeting.

Motion by Furman, second by Northrop, to suspend Robert's Rules to stand informally and allow for public discussion and engagement on any agenda item. Motion passed on voice vote with Skidmore voting nay.

5. UPDATE FROM THE BCC SUBCOMMITTEE REGARDING:

Justice Castañeda gave an update of the work of the BCC Subcommittee regarding the proposal to add a staff person to assist with BCC administrative services. He read the proposal prepared by the BCC Subcommittee and explained that a recommendation that the City hire someone for such a position was the culmination of its discussions related to whether to establish an Office of Resident Engagement and Neighborhood Support (ORENS) and reflected the needs for assistance with BCC administrative services as detailed in the proposal. Members were also provided with a copy of the proposal. Castañeda explained that the BCC would bring this issue to the TFOGS now for a possible recommendation so that it could be forwarded to the Mayor in advance of the upcoming budgeting process. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding where the position would be housed (mayor's office, clerk's office, or common council office) and whether the position should be viewed as "administrative support" to BCCs or BCC oversight or both. Task Force members also expressed the importance of ensuring that this position had wide support regardless of where it was housed. Alder Foster suggested that the TFOGS consider whether the possible tasks of this position (noted above) should be considered tasks for two different positions and how the city would accomplish these important tasks if there was no new position. Motion by Goodwin, second by Northrop, to refer the issue to the next TFOGS meeting on September 3, 2019.

Castañeda also explained that the BCC engaged in a lengthy discussion about the possible alternative structures to the BCC system that have been discussed throughout this process. He indicated that the BCC planned to meet at least one more time to further discuss this issue.

6. UPDATE FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE REGARDING:

Maggie Northrop provided an update from the Communications Subcommittee. She noted at the Open House is set for August 28 at 5:00 p.m. at the Atrium on South Park Street. She noted that staff has confirmed childcare, provided options for transportation, and received estimates and quotes for food. Motion by Furman, second by Castañeda to direct staff to work with the subcommittee and subcommittee chair to confirm and book these items. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Northrop mentioned that the subcommittee would meet next week to firm up details regarding posters for the open house, a process for receiving input, and a flyer for advertising transportation options in the neighborhoods.

Madison resident Sue Hoppenberg provided feedback on the resident survey and open house details.

7. DISCUSSION OF HOLDING POSSIBLE SECOND OPEN HOUSE IN MID-SEPTEMBER

The Subcommittee expressed the continued desire to hold a second Open House in mid-September and directed staff to obtain dates that the Warner Park Recreation Center would be available.

8. FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDA ITEMS

Task Force members noted at the time for the open house listed under Agenda Item 8 is incorrect and should be revised to state a 5:00 p.m. start.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Goodwin, second by Castañeda to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm