

Home Rule Charter Minutes
April 28, 2009
7:00 P.M.

Members Present: John Clarke, David Dupree, Andrew Ellis, Clayton Hines, Jay Jones, Chandler Johnston, Karen Keever, Tom Maher, Chris Russell, Steve Tallaksen, Sharon Whitehill-Gray, Robert Wilson, Loren Winter. Members Absent: None.

Loren Winter called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Judy Long, City Clerk, gave the oath of office to Steve Tallaksen and David Dupree.

Mr. Winter asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Clayton Hines made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Tom Maher. All voted aye.

Mr. Winter asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Hines made a motion to approve the agenda with a second by John Clarke. All voted aye.

Visitors

Mr. Winter opened the floor for visitors who were present who would like to address the Committee. No one was present.

Discussion Items

Mr. Winter stated that the first of the discussion items was the adoption of *Robert's Rules of Order*. After reading over the information present, Robert Wilson made a motion to adopt *Robert's Rules of Order* with a second by Steve Tallaksen. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Winter stated that the next item of discussion was the Calendar of events, Home Rule participation. Jay Jones stated that he felt it was more important to promote 60 days prior to next years election. Mr. Winter stated that certainly that time frame was critical, but he felt it was also important to stay in the public eye so that they are aware of it throughout the year. Karen Keever asked if the Committee was going to get their own website as she had already purchased nixahomerule.com and nixahomerule.info. She stated that it was inexpensive and a good way to get the information out to the public. Mr. Winter stated that the Nixa City website already had a dedicated page to the Home Rule Charter. Travis Cossey stated that the IT department was working on it presently and there was an icon on the City Home Page that will direct you to it. Mr. Winter said that the calendar was a guideline only and that they could add dates to it if they needed too. Steve Tallaksen made a motion to adopt the Calendar of Events with a second by Andrew Ellis. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Winter said the next discussion item was the Schedule of Home Rule Topics for Discussion. He stated that there are 2 meetings a month and that each member should come prepared by reading over the items to be discussed before each meeting. Robert Wilson suggested a survey for the public. Mr. Winter stated that it was a good idea, but to also invite the public to the meetings. Karen Keever asked if we would have an email account for the Home Rule. Mr. Winter stated that they could ask the IT Department to set that up for them. David Dupree asked who would answer the emails. After much discussion it was decided that Chandler Johnston would have access to the emails and bring them to the meetings for discussion.

Steve Tallaksen excused himself from the meeting for a prior commitment.

Robert Wilson asked if they should set up a separate time to discuss the website. Mr. Winter suggested that each member take time to look at the website and bring any suggestion back to the next meeting.

Clayton Hines made a motion to approve the Calendar with a second by David Dupree. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Winter said the next item for discussion was the budget. Since 95% of the budget was already taken care of by the City, they needed to decide how much they needed for items such as, banners, advertising etc. He felt that the \$20,000 that Republic had was too much and suggested about \$1,500. Doug Colvin said that the Charter Members should come up with an amount and staff would take it to the Board of Aldermen for approval. David Dupree stated that \$1,500 may not be enough, with some items having to be bought in bulk. Travis Cossey stated that if they asked for \$1,500 now and needed more later they could always ask for it. Chandler Johnston suggested padding the \$1,500 to \$3,000 just in case they needed it. Andrew Ellis suggested that they wait to decide until they could come up with some numbers on items they wished to purchase. Loren Winter said they could table the matter until next meeting and delegate the task of research costs to a couple members. Mr. Ellis said that he could bring back a list of promotional items with the cost to the next meeting. John Clarke made a motion to table the Budget Discussion until May 26th with a second by Clayton Hines. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Winter said that the next discussion item was Article 1 of the Charter. He said that any changes suggested could be discussed now or if it was good they could make a motion to adopt. Sharon Whitehill Gray made a motion to adopt Article 1 with the exception of replacing the City of Republic with the City of Nixa with a second by Tom Maher. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Travis Cossey stated that if they wanted to start at the top, then they needed to adopt the Preamble. Mr. Winter stated that yes they needed to do this. Sharon Whitehill Gray made a motion to adopt the Preamble with the exception of replacing the City of Republic with the City of Nixa with a second by Chris Russell. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Winter presented the next discussion item, Article II of the Charter. Pat Sweeney stated that section 2.3 was a broad statement, Mr. Winter asked if there was a specific benefit to it. Mr. Sweeney stated that no, it was a redundant statement as it is addressed later in the Charter. Mr. Winter stated that in his opinion section 2.3 was not necessary. John Clarke suggested keeping it simple was best. Chris Russell made a motion to adopt Article II, Section 2.1 and Section 2.2 with a second by Karen Kever. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Winter said that the next meeting would cover Article III, Sections 3.1-3.3. He asked that everyone read over those sections and be prepared. He requested the side by side comparison that Republic had to help with the discussion at the next meeting. Mr. Cossey stated that he would get the information to them. Mr. Cossey asked who would be drafting the Charter as they adopted sections and as changes were made. Mr. Winter said he assumed City staff would do this. Mr. Cossey stated that would be fine.

Clayton Hines stated that it was important to show up knowing the material already for the next meeting. Mr. Winter asked if staff could provide a Ward map for the next meeting. Mr. Cossey stated that staff would do that.

With no further discussion Chandler Johnston made a motion to adjourn with a second by Robert Wilson. All voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.