



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Charter Review Committee

09/26/2019

7:00 PM

Mission Branch Library
Community Room
1098 Lexington St.,
Santa Clara, CA 95050

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Jain called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Present 7 - Member Benjamin Cooley, Vice Chair Steven Silva, Member Christine Koltermann, Member Katherine Almazol, Chair Sudhanshu Jain, Member Stephen Ricossa, and Member Richard Bonito

2. Public Presentations

Public Presentation(s): City Clerk Haggag made a few meeting housekeeping announcements.

Member Silva asked that speakers note if they are residents of Santa Clara.

Steve Chessin noted he is not a resident of Santa Clara and informed the Committee that the County has signed a contract for new election equipment that can handle ranked choice voting in both single and multi-winner form.

Public Speaker noted he is a resident and gave an example of why it's important to have local representation.

Public Speaker noted she is a resident and in support of more districts because it allows for greater democracy as more people can run for office.

3. Receive Public Input

Chair Jain opened the meeting for public input.

Public Speaker(s): None.

4. Verbal Report from City Clerk on Survey Results and Other Feedback Received to Date[19-1102](#)

Verbal Report from City Clerk on Survey Results and Other Feedback Received to Date

City Clerk Haggag reviewed the public input received as of the day of the meeting and the Committee members discussed.

5. Verbal Report from Committee Members on Public Input Received to Date

Committee Members reported and discussed the public input they had received as of the day of the meeting.

[19-1156](#)

Post Meeting Material for Item 5, 6, and 7

6. Discuss Different Forms of 3 Member Districts and Transition Plans

City Clerk Haggag noted the agenda item was incorrectly stated. The agenda item should have been different forms of 3 districts, not different forms of 3-member districts.

City Clerk Haggag delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the different forms of 3 districts and 6 districts.

Committee Members asked questions and discussed this item.

City Clerk Haggag delivered a PowerPoint presentation on transition plan options.

Member Cooley presented some information on election methods.

Committee Members asked questions and discussed the items.

Public Speaker(s): Public Speakers (6)

[19-1233](#)

Discuss Different Forms of 3 Member Districts and Transition Plans
Post Meeting Material

A motion was made by Member Ricossa and seconded by Member Almazol to adopt 3 districts.

Aye: 5 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Almazol, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

Nay: 2 - Member Koltermann, and Chair Jain

A motion was made by Member Koltermann and seconded by Chair Jain to adopt 6 districts.

Aye: 2 - Member Koltermann, and Chair Jain

Nay: 5 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Almazol, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

A motion was made by Member Ricossa and seconded by Member Bonito to adopt the 3/3 election configuration.

Aye: 5 - Vice Chair Silva, Member Almazol, Chair Jain, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

Nay: 2 - Member Cooley, and Member Koltermann

A motion was made by Member Cooley to adopt the 4/2 election configuration. Motion failed for lack of a second.

7. Discuss Residency Requirements, including Effects of Redistricting and Relocating (inside and outside city) During Term

City Clerk Haggag provided some general guidance on this item.

Committee Members discussed the item.

Public Speaker(s): Public speakers (3)

Chair Jain asked the City Clerk to conduct a survey of neighboring Charter cities on residency requirements.

A motion was made by Member Bonito and seconded by Member Cooley for the City Attorney to bring back two language options for Committee consideration related to residency requirements.

Aye: 7 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Koltermann, Member Almazol, Chair Jain, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

8. Discuss Possible Language Related to Redistricting

City Clerk Haggag presented some general questions to help guide the discussion.

Committee Members discussed the item and asked questions.

City Attorney Doyle provided information on the item and noted he would bring back some sample language for discussion purposes. He also asked if the Demographer could provide options on combining districts.

Committee Members chose to defer any remaining discussion to the next meeting pending additional information.

Public Speaker(s): Public Speakers (2)

9. Discussion and Action on Recommended Charter Amendment

City Clerk Haggag clarified that the earlier motions will suffice for direction under this item.

A discussion occurred regarding providing some initial map options for 3 districts.

City Attorney Doyle stated he would bring back language from Measure A on how initial districts will be drawn.

Dr. Gobalet stated she would provide information from her past work on Measure A for the Committee.

Public Speaker(s): Public speakers (3)

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Member Ricossa and seconded by Member Bonito to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 PM.

Aye: 7 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Koltermann, Member Almazol, Chair Jain, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito