



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Charter Review Committee

08/15/2019

6:30 PM

Central Park Library, Redwood Room
2635 Homestead Road
Santa Clara, CA 95051

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Jain called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. **City Clerk Haggag** participated remotely.

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 Presentations: Steve Chessin noted the Committee should consider two items for a future agenda regarding two possible charter amendments for an independent redistricting committee and ranked choice voting.

3. Approval of the July 18, 2019 Charter Review Committee meeting minutes

[19-925](#) Action on the Charter Review Committee Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Meeting

Recommendation: Approve the Charter Review Committee Minutes of the July 18, 2019 meeting.

Assistant City Clerk Pimentel noted two corrections to the July 18, 2019 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Member Ricossa and seconded by Member Almazol to approve the July 18, 2019 meeting minutes as corrected.

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

4. Committee questions on California Voting Rights Act as it pertains to the question of districts

Chair Jain asked the Committee if they had any questions about the CVRA as it pertains to district elections. **Committee Members** asked questions and **City Attorney Doyle** responded.

Public Speaker(s): Public Speakers (4)

5. Update on communication and outreach strategy

[19-922](#)

Update on Communication and Outreach Strategy

City Clerk Haggag provided a verbal report on outreach including numbers of posts on social media, upcoming newsletter placement, etc. **Committee Members** then asked questions and made comments regarding the update.

Chair Jain, Member Almazol and **Member Ricossa** requested the creation of an FAQ and **City Clerk Haggag** asked committee members to suggest questions to be added.

6. Initial discussion on support for pursuing 6-District model or some other number of districts model

a. Verbal report from City Clerk on survey results and other feedback received to date

City Clerk Haggag provided brief information about the survey results. **Committee Members** asked questions about the survey.

A motion was made by Member Ricossa and seconded by Member Koltermann to not discuss the results of the survey.

Aye: 3 - Vice Chair Silva, Member Koltermann, and Member Ricossa

Nay: 4 - Member Cooley, Member Almazol, Chair Jain, and Member Bonito

[19-1127](#)

Verbal report from City Clerk on survey results and other feedback received to date Post Meeting Material

[19-930](#)

OpenGov Survey Results as of August 12, 2019 at 1:44 PM

City Clerk Haggag reviewed the survey totals received as of 3:19 PM that day. **Committee Members** asked questions and provided comments about the survey.

- b. Verbal report from Committee members on public input received to date

Committee Members provided an overview of outreach they had conducted and overall questions or comments received.

- c. Discussion on additional outreach opportunities

Committee Members presented ideas and had a discussion related to additional outreach methods.

Public Speaker(s): Public speakers (5)

7. Receive public input

Chair Jain opened the meeting for public input.

Public Speaker(s): 2

Public Speaker 1: The speaker noted that a "Mini Mayor" form happens when you have smaller districts. These representatives then to think solely about their smaller areas versus the City as a whole.

Public Speaker 2: The speaker noted frustration with the narrow focus of this process and that this process is being rushed. Speaker noted that other cities have spent a year or more.

Chair Jain asked Committee for input on future agenda items.

Member Cooley requested that the public input portion be moved to the top of the agenda for the next meeting.

Committee Members requested various items be added to the agenda and the Committee voted on each one separately.

A motion was made by Chair Jain and seconded by Member Koltermann to place a discussion about the number of districts on the next meeting agenda.

Aye: 6 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Koltermann, Member Almazol, Chair Jain, and Member Bonito

Nay: 1 - Member Ricossa

A motion was made by Chair Jain and seconded by Member Koltermann to place a discussion of residency requirements for candidates in a district on the next meeting agenda.

Aye: 5 - Member Cooley, Vice Chair Silva, Member Koltermann, Chair Jain, and Member Bonito

Nay: 2 - Member Almazol, and Member Ricossa

A motion was made by Chair Jain and seconded by Member Koltermann to place the discussion of the redistricting process on the next meeting agenda.

Aye: 3 - Member Cooley, Member Koltermann, and Chair Jain

Nay: 4 - Vice Chair Silva, Member Almazol, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

A motion was made by Chair Jain and seconded by Member Koltermann to place a discussion on ranked choice voting on the next meeting agenda.

Aye: 3 - Member Cooley, Member Koltermann, and Chair Jain

Nay: 4 - Vice Chair Silva, Member Almazol, Member Ricossa, and Member Bonito

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Silva and seconded by Member Koltermann to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM.

Next Meeting: Saturday, September 21, 2019, 12:00 – 2:00 PM – Northside Branch Library Community Room - 695 Moreland Way, Santa Clara, CA 95054

If you would like to request translation services for this public hearing, please contact the City Manager's Office at (408) 615-2210 or manager@santaclaraca.gov.

Pizza or sandwiches will be provided as a light dinner at each of the committee meetings.