



# City of Santa Clara

## Meeting Minutes

### Charter Review Committee

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08/15/2019

6:30 PM

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

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#### 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.

#### 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

[19-930](#)

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 discssion 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](mailto:manager@santaclaraca.gov).

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