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TEXAS CITY CHARTER COMMITTEE

Minutes

NOVEMBER 12, 2018 - 5:30 P.M. NESSLER CIVIC CENTER DAVY CROCKETT ROOM

Meeting came to Order at 5:35pm.

- I. Welcome – *Phil Roberts and Bob Senter welcomed the committee.*
- II. Introductions of Members/Roll Call – *Nick Finan, Bob Senter, Carlos Garza, Russell Plackemeier, Phil Roberts, Lupe Cantu, Jenny Senter, Mark Ciavaglia, Aric Owens, and Dedrick Johnson were present.*
- III. Overview
 - a. City Charter – what is it?

Bob Senter discussed what a charter is. Charter amended in 1995. The Charter is an agreement with Citizens. The charter affects at a 30,000 ft. level not specific laws, etc. That lower specific level is for ordinances and policies.
 - b. Committee's Charge
 - i. Maybe nothing
 - ii. Maybe some clean up
 - iii. Maybe major

Bob Senter summarized the three items above. Our charter should at least meet State law. Don't expect city charter to mirror state law, but does staff see items with state law conflicting or more lenient, open, flexible? We will want to know this from staff. We may also want some assistant and spoke with Terrell Blodgett a known Municipal expert in the state of Texas. Carlos Garza stated that Terrell assisted with the 1995 Charter Review and was very beneficial and feels we should. Bob said that Terrell does not feel he can travel like we used to and suggested we use his associate. Lupe Cantu asked if Charter Review Committee is making a recommendation to City Commission? Bob Senter said, "Yes."

Carlos Garza stated the City went through this process in 1995, wants to make sure we request a review of City Charter to state law if we get someone like Terrell Blodgett to assist us. We should send to Terrell or his associate our charter.

Lupe Cantu asked does the Mayor have things he expects? Bob Senter and Phil Roberts- No, up to the Committee.

Dedrick Johnson asked if we can we review with Terrell Blodgett and he adjust for his bias for city manager form of government? Bob Senter said yes, he feels that we can work with him and he would not let the bias interfere.

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IV. Selection of Vice Chair

Mark Ciavaglia nominated Carlos Garza to be Vice Chair, Lupe Cantu seconded. Unanimous vote to approve.

V. Review of Existing Charter

- a. Handbook as assistance – *These items were passed out and requested to be reviewed.*
- b. Copy of Charter – *A PDF version was passed out, but Nick Finan stated that a word document would be emailed and provided in double space format prior to next meeting. Bob requested everyone to start to review.*

VI. Next Meeting

a. Start Discussing Priorities

Everyone will start looking at priorities. Bob Senter stated going forward will be discussions on priorities- form of government, elections, etc.

Assignment of tasks for next meeting: Nick Finan- will reach out to Terrell and request if he can compare to state inquire about the associate to maybe visit with the committee. Also, prepare a survey to the Executive Staff requesting if they are aware of any conflicts or inconsistencies with State law.

Russell Plackemeier- continue to look at charter for State law conflicts or inconsistencies.

VII. Establish Meeting Dates and Times

December 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. will be the next meeting and every 2nd Monday each month after that.