

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Afton Charter Commission**  
**July 10, 2008**

**PRESENT:** John Barclay, Julianne Berg (7:05), Bonnie Blackley, Lynn Farley, Michael Frichol, Thomas Giannetti, Rock Gjermo (7:12), Kenn Kopitzke, Kathleen McGinn, Deborah Nelson, Patricia Snyder and Carol Wiessner.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair McGinn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL:** Snyder performed roll call.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Wiessner moved to approve the Minutes of 6/12/08 as written. Seconded by Barclay. Motion passed (11-0).

**4. TREASURER REPORT:** Barclay reported that he has obtained a federal ID number for banking purposes, as required by the Patriot Act. He has also opened a checking account with the \$1,500 from the City.

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Status of Public Mailing -** McGinn presented a letter she received today from Jim Norman, the interim city administrator, stating that it will be necessary to put our request to use the City's bulk mailing permit on the upcoming CC Agenda. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 15. McGinn will follow up with him that it be put on the Agenda and try to attend the next meeting. Discussion followed as to whether or not the CC will require approval of our mailings and the content of the last CC request and subsequent vote.

The proposed mailing was discussed and McGinn reported that she made a final change prior to printing, i.e. the second bullet point in the paragraph labeled "Concerns" now reads "double digit" instead of "38%" to avoid concern that this figure may be disputable. Discussion followed. Kopitzke objected to the change from 38% to double digit. Motion by Giannetti to approve the mailing of the letter with the change made by McGinn and the previous change made to substitute the word "participation" in place of "input" in the last sentence of the paragraph entitled "More Information". Seconded by Nelson. Discussion followed with J. Berg objecting to several of the bullet points under the "Concerns" section. In addition to disagreeing with the statement that there have been steep increases in lawsuits and legal fees, she stated that there was never a proposed 38% budget increase and she didn't believe that there is a non-productive and non-cooperative spirit hindering this CC.

Discussion also included requesting the city to include a brief item introducing the Charter Commission in the city's newsletter and whether or not to include commission member's names at the bottom of the letter. It was agreed that McGinn would provide the CC with a copy of the public mailing and that in

the event we are turned down, Barclay will purchase an independent bulk mail permit from the proceeds of the \$1,500. Motion passed (11-1) with J. Berg against.

**B. Review Referendum and Recall section drafts of Charter -**

Section 6.7 of the draft Referendum was discussed with regard to the time frame for a special election, as well as the addition of wording that would allow the city to call for one. It was agreed to research the existing language in state statutes and A. Berg will incorporate that language into the section. Definitions, forms and appendixes still need to be added and current drafts will be posted to the commission's website.

Section 7.09 of the draft Recall was discussed with changes to (c) to read as follows: "circulate a recall petition unless qualified to sign said petition, or" and In Sec. 7.07 wording will be added on succession that is identical to that contained in the current ordinance.

Barclay moved to approve the posting of the current working drafts of Initiative, Referendum and Recall (with changes and marked "working drafts" in bold) onto the website. Seconded by McGinn. Motion passed (12-0).

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Draft Budget and Bonding sections of Charter -**

McGinn relayed information that Snyder obtained from the LMC concerning quorums and suggested that in order to speed things up for the November ballot we form workgroups or subcommittees to address the remaining sections of the charter, who will then report back to the group at its regular meeting. The remaining sections were identified as Budget, Bonding, and Comprehensive Plan/zoning and land use issues. Members volunteered or were assigned to subcommittees as follows:

Budget – Kopitzke (head), Frichol, Blackley and Oehlke

Bonding – Farley (head), J. Berg, Barclay and Giannetti

Comp Plan/zoning and land use – Gjerme (head), McGinn, Nelson and Wiessner

Subcommittees are encouraged to meet at least twice and have a prepared draft ready for the next regular meeting on August 14. Discussion followed regarding general budget and bonding issues.

**7. WRAP UP:**

**A. Next meeting dates -** August 14, 2008

**B. Agenda Items -**

**C. Assignments -** McGinn will prepare a letter to the interim city administrator and get on the agenda for the next CC meeting to present our request for use of the city's bulk mailing permit, space in their newsletter, and a link on the website. Blackley will also attend the 7/15 CC meeting and serve as backup. Barclay will obtain a bulk mailing permit if our request is denied.

Snyder will forward info from LMC concerning quorums, cancel the church for July 24 and reconfirm the next meeting on August 14. Frichol will draft, email and post to the website forms and appendixes, as well as current drafts for Initiative, Referendum and Recall. A. Berg will continue to work on definitions and incorporate current changes.

**8. ADJOURN:** Motion to adjourn by Gjermo. Seconded by Snyder. Motion passed (12-0). Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Snyder, Secretary