



City of Sunnyvale

Meeting Minutes

Charter Review Committee

Thursday, February 6, 2025

6:00 PM

Online and Redwood Conference Room,
City Hall, 456 W. Olive Ave., Sunnyvale,
CA 94086

OATH OF OFFICE FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

City Clerk David Carnahan administered the Oath of Office to appointed Committee Members.

CALL TO ORDER

Deputy City Manager Connie Verceles called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Deputy City Manager Verceles led the salute to the United States flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: 10 - Member Galen Kim Davis
Member Kathryn Filley
Member Gustav Larsson
Member Timothy Oey
Member Ken Olevson
Member Martin Pyne
Member Gail Rubino
Member Paulette Saldanha
Member Barry Vickrey
Member Kristel Wickham

Absent: 1 - Member David Newswanger

Member Newswanger's absence is excused.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Zachary Kaufman commented on the results of the November 2024 Charter Amendment ballot measure and requested the percentage of no votes be included when presenting the results of the ballot measure.

PUBLIC HEARING/GENERAL BUSINESS

- 1 [25-0015](#) Committee Member and Staff Introductions; Questions Related to Procedures and Training

Deputy City Manager Connie Verceles provided the staff report.

Staff and Committee Members provided introductions and details of their current and past public service.

Committee Members asked questions and staff responded regarding the differences between General Law and Charter cities.

Public Hearing opened at 6:16 p.m.

No speakers.

Public Hearing closed at 6:16 p.m.

- 2 [25-0014](#) Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Public Hearing opened at 6:20 p.m.

Steve Scandalis voiced support for Gustav Larsson as Chair and provided suggestions relating qualifications of a Vice Chair. They shared support for Tim Oey and Ken Olevson as potential Vice Chairs.

Public Hearing closed at 6:22 p.m.

Deputy City Manager Verceles opened nominations for the office of Chair.

Committee Member Oey nominated Committee Member Larsson. Committee Member Larsson accepted the nomination.

With no further nominations, Deputy City Manager Verceles closed nominations for the office of Chair. Committee Member Larsson will serve as Chair.

Deputy City Manager Verceles opened nominations for the office of Vice Chair.

Committee Member Oey nominated Committee Member Wickham. Committee Member Wickham accepted the nomination.

Committee Member Wickham nominated Committee Member Oey. Committee

Member Oey declined the nomination.

With no further nominations, Deputy City Manager Verceles closed nominations for the office of Vice Chair. Member Wickham will serve as Vice Chair.

3 [25-0016](#) Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Meeting Schedule and Length

Deputy City Manager Verceles provided the staff report.

Public Hearing opened at 6:34 p.m.

Steve Scandalis shared support for scheduling Charter Review Committee meetings on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. They also commented on a meeting start time of 6 p.m. with a duration of two hours.

Public Hearing closed at 6:36 p.m.

Committee Members shared their preferences related to the meeting schedule and the length of meetings.

MOTION: Committee Member Oey moved and Committee Member Filley seconded the motion to meet from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month and meet from 6 to 8 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Committee Member Pyne offered a friendly amendment to meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month. Committee Members Oey and Filley accepted the friendly amendment.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Chair Larsson offered a friendly amendment to remove the meeting dates of March 27, July 24, and September 25. Committee Members Oey and Filley accepted the friendly amendment.

MOTION AS AMENDED RESTATED: Committee Member Oey moved and Committee Member Filley seconded the motion to meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month and meet from 6 to 8 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every other month. The Committee will meet on:

February 27 (tentative meeting)

March 6

April 3
April 24 (tentative meeting)
May 1
June 5
June 26 (tentative meeting)
July 3
August 7
August 28 (tentative meeting)
September 4
October 2
October 23 (tentative meeting)
November 6
December 4

The motion as amended carried with the following vote:

Yes: 10 - Member Davis
Member Filley
Member Larsson
Member Oey
Member Olevson
Member Pyne
Member Rubino
Member Saldanha
Member Vickrey
Member Wickham

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Member Newswanger

MOTION: Committee Member Filley moved and Committee Member Davis seconded the motion for the Committee to meet on February 27.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Committee Member Wickham offered a friendly amendment to meet from 5 to 7 p.m. Committee Members Filley and Davis accepted the friendly amendment.

The motion as amended carried with the following vote:

Yes: 10 - Member Davis
Member Filley
Member Larsson
Member Oey
Member Olevson
Member Pyne
Member Rubino
Member Saldanha
Member Vickrey
Member Wickham

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Member Newswanger

4 [25-0035](#) Review of Scope for Charter Review Committee and
Discussion of Work Plan

Senior Assistant City Attorney Melissa Tronquet provided the staff report.

Public Hearing opened at 7:24 p.m.

Zachary Kaufman shared support for the Committee's scope to include a discussion related to Sunnyvale residency for City-elected positions specifically how long a candidate must reside in the city (mayor) or the district (councilmember). They suggested a five-year residency for the office of mayor and between two and five-years for councilmembers.

Steve Scandalis shared support for discussions related to Sunnyvale residency requirements and potential regulations relating to mobile home acreage.

Public Hearing closed at 7:29 p.m.

Deputy City Manager Verceles shared with the Committee, on behalf of Committee Member David Newswanger, that the Committee consider the residency requirement for mayor and councilmembers.

The Committee discussed or suggested recommendations related to the Committee's scope and work plan:

- Comments in support of reviewing the Charter thoroughly (page by page).

- Comment in support of assigning “reading/home work”.
- Suggestion that the Committee review the Charter page by page simultaneously and that the Committee allocate three meetings to complete this task.
- Comments in support of allocating three meetings to review the Charter.

The Committee took a recess at 7:46 p.m. and reconvened at 7:51 p.m. with all Members present.

- Comments in support of forming ad-hoc committees.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

-Committee Member Comments

None.

-Staff Comments

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy City Manager Verceles adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.