



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE AGENDA**

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

**MINUTES**

September 23, 2021, 5PM

Members present: Meagan Benetti, Ben Echevarria, Zoe Iacovino, Ona Ferguson, Laura Pitone, Beverly (Bev) Schwartz, Lucas Schaber, William (Bill) White, Kat Rutkin, Jessica Lieberman

Members not present: Emily Monea, Crystal Turner

Staff attending: Anna Corning, Hope Williams, Collins Center - Elizabeth Corbo, Collins Center - Steve McGoldrick, Collins Center - Marylin Contreas

Other attending: Klaus Schultz, Andy Anderson, Greg Dennis, Barry Rafkind, Jack Perenick, Elizabeth Meek

Meeting started at 5:05PM

**Decisions:**

1. Committee approved minutes from 9/9
  - a. Six 5s

*The committee uses the Fist to Five method of voting, a technique for gauging consensus. Voting ranges from 0 to 5. The scale is: 0 - no way, 1 - major issues to be resolved now, 2 - minor issues to be resolved now, 3 - minor issues to be resolved later, 4 - comfortable with this as it is, 5 - love this and will champion it. 0-2 is considered a lack of consensus, while 3-5 is considered consensus.*

**MINUTES**

1. Welcome 5:12
  - a. Anna welcomed the committee and community members.
2. Approved 9/9 Minutes 5:15
  - a. Meeting minutes from 9/9 were approved.
3. Public Comment 5:15
  - a. Committee heard two public comments, one from Klaus Schultz and one from Any Anderson. Both were supporting Ranked Choice Voting.
4. Collins Center - Citizen Participation Mechanisms 5:20
  - a. Free petition:

- i. The committee discussed having citizen individual initiative petitions and group petitions, which would allow an individual or group of residents to request a hearing before the city council.
  - b. Citizen initiative measures:
    - i. The committee discussed citizen initiative measures, which would allow a group of voters to petition for an ordinance and require the council to act or bring the ordinance to voters to decide.
  - c. Citizen referendum:
    - i. The committee discussed a citizen referendum, which would allow a group of voters to petition to repeal an ordinance - it would pause the ordinance from going into place until the question of repeal is brought to the voters to decide.
  - d. Recall:
    - i. The committee discussed recall, which would allow a group of voters to petition for the removal of an elected official - the question of removal would be brought to the voters to decide.
5. Community Engagement Update 6:40
  - a. Zoe presented an after Kick-Off summary, which can be found [here](#). Zoe also explained that the committee plans to bring on a consultant to run the community meetings. The meetings will be:
    - i. September 28 5pm - Mayor, City Council, School Committee
    - ii. October 13 6pm - Administrative Organization and Finance
    - iii. October 16 3pm - Nominations and Elections
    - iv. November 1 6pm - Citizen Participation Mechanisms
6. Coordinating Team Update 6:50
  - a. Bev from the Coordinating Team asked who would like to join the team as a rotating member, and Jessica volunteered. Libby of the Collins Center explained that the majority of the interviews have been completed.
7. Anna thanked everyone and reminded the committee of the next meeting: Thursday, September 23rd at 5pm.

Posted: 10/20 9AM