



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

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

MINUTES

August 26, 2021, 5PM

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

Members not present: Ben Echevarria, Zoe Iacovino, Emily Monea

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

Other attending: Jamie Perconti, Barry Rafkind, Stephen Mackey, Greg, William Valletta, Pat Cain

Meeting started at 5:05PM

Decisions:

1. Committee approved minutes from 8/12
 - a. Seven 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 5:04
 - a. Hope welcomed the committee and community members.
2. Approved 8/12 Minutes 5:08
 - a. Meeting minutes from 8/12 were approved.
3. Public Comment 5:10
 - a. Committee heard public comment from Barry Rafkind.
4. Collins Center - Administrative Organization + Finance Exemplar Language 5:15
 - a. Article 5 Administrative Organization
 - i. Committee discussed Article 5, specifically section 46d, in the previously revised language.

- b. Article 6 Finance
 - i. Committee discussed Article 6, Finance, which included budget timeline requirements and budget creation and submission protocols between Mayor, City Council, and School Committee. Several members mentioned transparency to ensure the public has ample time to review, funding source transparency, public comment on the Mayor's budget, participatory budgeting mechanisms, and the Mayor's control over the auditing process.
 - ii. Committee questions included: How can we increase City Council input on the Mayor's budget? How do vetoed funds get used/reallocated?

- 5. Community Engagement Update 6:40
 - a. Meagan reminded committee and public of the Kick-Off event on Saturday August 28th, and mentioned the committee members should arrive at 2:30 if possible. She also said t-shirts will be provided for the committee.

- 6. Hope thanked everyone and reminded the committee of the next meeting: Sept 9th at 5pm.

Posted: