

**BASTROP CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2010**

The Bastrop Charter Review Committee met on Monday, January 25, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bastrop City Hall Council Chambers, 904 Main Street. Members present were Chairman Ken Kesselus, Jeff Yarbrough, Debbie Moore, Lisa Tantaksinanukij, Camilo R. Chavez III, Karen Pinard, Brandi Smith, Willie DeLaRosa and Reverend R. D. Smith.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL.

At 6:00 p.m., Chairman Ken Kesselus called the meeting to order with all members present City Secretary, Teresa Valdez conducted a silent roll call.

2. DISCUSSION OF THE CHARTER AND ASPECTS THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED FOR CHANGE.

Chairman Kesselus stated at the last meeting the Committee had decided to do the following at this meeting: 1) Give everyone an opportunity to say what they may think needs to be changed in the Charter; and 2) Discuss Ms. Smith's question from the last meeting "What has changed in Bastrop that it has grown so?".

The Committee Members listed the following as items they would like discussed in regard to being changed in the Charter or items that citizens have suggested:

Karen Pinard: Article III - Section 3.02 & 3.06

Brandi Smith – Article III - Section 3.02

Lisa Tantaksinanukij – Article III - Section 3.02 & 3.06

Willie DeLaRosa – Article III - Section 3.01

Reverend R.D. Smith – Article III - Section 3.02 (b) – Single Member Districts

Debbie Moore – Article II - Section 2.03; Article III - Section 3.01 (5), Section 3.02 (c); Section 3.07, Section 3.10; Article VI – Section 6.11, Section 6.13; Article IX – Section 9.06, Section 9.07; Article X – Section 10.10; Article XII, Section 12.01; Article XIII – Section 13.04; Article XIV.

Jeff Yarbrough – Article III, Section 3.02

Camilo Chavez – Article III, Section 3.02(c); Also a general question – Key staff hired required to be citizens of City?

Ken Kesselus – Article XI, Article III (number of Council Members), and question regarding Commission and Committees – not all are named in Charter.

Ann Beck addressed the Commission and voiced concerns in regard to the members of the various City Boards and Commissions serving for multiple years. Ms. Beck stated the City of Bastrop should set terms for Board or Commission members to allow for new members and new ideas.

The Committee Members then discussed Ms. Smith's question: "What has changed in Bastrop over the years that it has grown so?" The discussion lead to questions in regard to annexation.

The Committee Members then began their Article by Article review of the Charter.

Article I

Chairman Kesselus stated this Article states the Form of Government for the City of Bastrop.

Article II

Discussion was held in regard to annexation. It was the consensus of the Committee that information be provided to the Members who had questions. This information can be reviewed at the office of the City Secretary and if that information is not sufficient then the Committee could request that the City Attorney provide information to them.

Article III

Discussion was held in regard to the Council having more input in the hiring of department heads, specifically the Finance Director, Planning Director, Police Chief and City Secretary.

Reverend Smith voiced concerns on the City's hiring practices, that it did not reflect the demographics of Bastrop.

Karen Pinard asked that the Committee look at the Ordinances that address the appointment of boards and commissions. Do the Ordinances conflict with the Charter. The City Secretary is to provide copies of these Ordinances to the Committee Members.

It was the consensus of the Committee to begin their next meeting continuing the review of the Charter and begin with Article III, Section 3.01(5).

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF FUTURE MEETING DATES.

It was the consensus of the Committee to meet on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bastrop City Hall Council Chambers.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

At 8:05 p.m., it was the consensus of the Committee to adjourn.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Ken Kesselus, Chairman

Teresa Valdez, City Secretary

