City of San Marcos

Meeting Minutes
Charter Review Commission

Monday, March 8, 2021  5:30 PM  Virtual Meeting

I. Call To Order

With a quorum present, the regular meeting of the Charter Review Commission was called to order by Chair Thomaides at 5:35 p.m. on Monday, March 8, 2021.

II. Roll Call

Present:  6 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Taylor. Commissioner Kelsey and Commissioner Sambrano both arrived at 5:36 p.m.

Absent:  1 - Commissioner Sparks

Others Present:  1 - Lisa Marie Coppoletta

III. 30 Minute Citizen Comment Period

Lisa Marie Coppoletta cited a James Madison quote from the Constitution Convention of 1787 and the importance of the Commission’s role and input. She expressed her concern of low citizen participation at Charter meetings. LMC also made a suggestion and reiterated some previous concerns: no city managers should live in a gated community since it creates a disconnection from the rest of the citizenry, the city manager should not be allowed to place items on an agenda that benefits him financially, every board/commission meeting should include “questions and answers from press and public,” all board members should be visible during virtual meetings and not have other items projected on the virtual screen, all board meetings should be posted upon its commencement, and all citizens should be allowed to remain in the main session and not be moved in and out (of main session).

1. Consider approval, by motion, of the March 1, 2021 regular meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mayhew, seconded by Commissioner Kelsey, to approve the minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

For:  6 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey, Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Sambrano, and Commissioner Taylor

Against:  0

Absent:  1 - Commissioner Sparks
2. Review, discuss, and take action, as appropriate, on amending Sec. 1.03 – Statement of
goals, under Article I – Form of Government andBoundaries.

There was a consensus to have Commissioner Mayhew draft a (statement of goals)
proposal for consideration by the Commission at their next meeting.

3. Continue section by section review of San Marcos’ City Charter, including but not limited
to Article VIII – Financial Procedure, Article IX – Borrowing for Capital Improvements, and
Article X – Tax Administration.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kelsey, seconded by Commissioner
Mayhew, to amend Sec. 8.02 – Preparation and submission of budget, by
striking subsections (a) and (b) in their entirety and keeping subsection (c).
After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn by Commissioner Kelsey
and Commissioner Mayhew.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kelsey, seconded by Commissioner
Mayhew, to amend Sec. 8.02 – Preparation and submission of budget, by
removing subsection (a) in its entirety and amending subsection (b) by re-
moving the subordinate clause: “By March 31st of each year.”.

MOTION TO AMEND: a motion was made by Commissioner Mayhew, sec-
onded by Chair Thomaides, to amend subsection (b) to read as follows:
“By March 31st of each year, after a public hearing, the city council shall
formulate a policy statement to be used by the city manager as direction
during the preparation of the proposed budget.” The motion carried by
the following vote:

For: 6 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey,
Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Sambrano, and Com-
missioner Taylor

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Sparks

MOTION TO AMEND: a motion was made by Commissioner Sambrano, sec-
onded by Commissioner Kelsey, to amend subsection (a) to read as follows:
“By January 31st of each year, council shall hold a visioning session. By
February 27th of each year the city council shall hold and a budget policy
workshop.” The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey,
Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Sambrano, and Com-
missioner Taylor

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Sparks

MAIN MOTION: to approve Sec. 8.02, as amended. The motion carried by the
following vote:

For: 6 Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey,
Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Sambrano, and Commissioner Taylor

Against: 0
Absent: 1 - Commissioner Sparks

IV. Discussion and Recommendations for Future Agenda Items.

March 22, 2021:

- review, discuss, and take action, as appropriate on Sec. 1.03 – Statement of goals, under Article I – Form of Government and Boundaries, including a draft proposal crafted by Commissioner Mayhew

- continue section by section review of San Marcos’ City Charter including, but not limited to Article XI – Franchises and Public Service Companies, and Article XII – General Provisions

- discuss and consider approval of the interim report to City Council from the Charter Review Commission

- Commissioner Kelsey will draft a proposal to amend Sec. 7.01 – Planning and zoning commission

V. Question and Answer Session with Press and Public.

None were present for questions and answers from press and public.

VI. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of the Charter Review Commission meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Michael Cosentino, Staff Liaison

John Thomaides, Chair