

**ELK GROVE CHARTER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 8400 LAGUNA PALMS WAY
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance

The Regular Charter Commission meeting of October 6, 2009 was called to order by Chair Allen at 6:10 p.m.

Present: Commissioners – Allen, Johnson, Sendejas-Lopez, and Rambo
Absent: Commissioners – Loveland, Martin (arrived at 6:15 p.m), and Orrock

Also Present: City Attorney Susan Cochran and City Clerk Susan Blackston

Commissioner Sendejas-Lopez led the pledge of allegiance.

NOTE: Item 2 was taken out of order and considered after Item 4.5.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION/VOTE:

Commissioner Johnson made a motion, Allen second, to approve the September 28, 2009 minutes as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners – Allen, Johnson, Sendejas-Lopez, and Rambo
Noes: Commissioners – None
Absent: Commissioners – Loveland, Martin, and Orrock

4. New Business

4.1 Review proposed written communication to the City Council requesting that a Special Joint Meeting with the Charter Commission be scheduled in January 2010

Chair Allen noted that the letter he composed requests the City Council to schedule a special joint meeting with the Charter Commission between the dates of December 10, 2009 to January 6, 2010 (filed). He explained that this would allow time for the Charter Commission to make any necessary edits to the charter following the joint meeting and prior to its final submittal to the City Council on January 13, 2010.

NOTE: Commissioner Martin arrived at 6:15 p.m.

Commissioner Sendejas-Lopez expressed concern about the negative tone of the letter and preferred that a simple, briefly stated request for a joint meeting be forwarded to the City Council.

Chair Allen and Commissioners Johnson and Rambo supported the letter as written and felt it was important to fully justify the request and explain that the public also favors a joint meeting being conducted.

Commissioner Martin pointed out that the letter is coming from the Commission as a whole and, therefore, should be agreed upon unanimously. She felt that the letter, as written, was terse in tone and bordered on being adversarial.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Connie Conley, speaking on behalf of the Elk Grove Community Connection (EGCC) and Elk Grove Coalition Advocating Proper Planning, stated that both groups were in support of a joint meeting between the City Council and Charter Commission. She felt the City Council did not give proper consideration of the charter at its meeting on September 9. She announced that EGCC was hosting a District 2 meeting [open to the public] on October 29 regarding the charter.

Commissioner Rambo suggested that the October 29 meeting would be a good opportunity for the rural protection measure to be brought forward.

MOTION/VOTE:

Commissioner Martin made a motion, Sendejas-Lopez second, to redraft the letter to the City Council [*requesting a special joint meeting be scheduled*] in a more diplomatic tone and bring it back to the Commission for consideration. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners – Allen, Johnson, Martin, and
Sendejas-Lopez
Noes: Commissioners – None
Abstain: Commissioner – Rambo
Absent: Commissioners – Loveland and Orrock

- 4.2 Reconsider action taken at the September 15, 2009 Charter Commission meeting to return to the City Council at its regularly scheduled meeting of October 14, 2009 to seek direction on the number of City Council Members and Districts to identify in Section 2.01 of the charter.

Chair Allen and Commissioners Johnson and Rambo voiced support for *not* seeking further direction from the City Council on October 14, as they felt it would be preferable to obtain public input on various aspects of the charter as currently written. Further, if a joint meeting is scheduled, the charter in its entirety can be fully discussed with the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

MOTION/VOTE:

Commissioner Johnson made a motion, Rambo second, to *rescind* the September 15, 2009 motion to seek further direction from the City Council on October 14, 2009. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners – Allen, Johnson, Martin, Sendejas-Lopez and Rambo
Noes: Commissioners – None
Absent: Commissioners – Loveland and Orrock

- 4.3 Receive and discuss reports:
- a) Public outreach efforts by Charter Commissioners
 - b) Discuss outreach efforts to the North State Building Industry Association

Commissioner Sendejas-Lopez reported that she and Commissioner Loveland had not yet finalized dates to meet with the homeowners associations mentioned at the last meeting.

Commissioner Rambo stated that, due to his work schedule, he has not been able to devote as much time as he would like to public outreach; however, he has been communicating to leaders via telephone and asking them to speak about the charter to community groups.

Chair Allen and Commissioners Johnson and Rambo stated that they would be attending the EGCC October 29 meeting.

Chair Allen reported that he and Commissioner Johnson would be meeting with the Laguna Sunrise Rotary on October 14 and the North State Building Industry Association on October 20. He stated that, last week, he and Vice Chair Orrock attended a meeting with local business leaders that were interested in the topic of prevailing wage.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

- 4.4 Receive and provide direction to *HDR/The Hoyt Company* regarding community questionnaire, talking points, and matrix for public outreach

Kristy Day, Community Relations Project Manager, distributed and reviewed the following documents (all filed):

- Outreach Contact Report
- Draft Questionnaire
- Draft Handout
- Draft Talking Points for Outreach
- HDR/The Hoyt Company Budget Proposal
- Matrix for Charter Commission Community Meetings.

NOTE: Commissioner Martin left at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Rambo preferred to have a one page handout. He questioned the accuracy of the some of the figures, such as the cost to add two more Council Members and preferred that controversial information not be included.

Commissioner Sendejas-Lopez countered that costs were important to specify because members of the public often ask for such information.

Commissioner Johnson recommended that the first question on the draft questionnaire be eliminated, to which Commissioner Rambo disagreed, stating that it is important to know whether or the not the person filling out the questionnaire is in favor of having a charter.

Commissioner Johnson asked that the questionnaire be simplified so that people can complete and return it quickly. He felt that too much was included about prevailing wage and there should be information added about runoff elections, as it involves significant cost.

Chair Allen and Commissioner Rambo agreed that the questionnaire be brief and concise so that people are more apt to complete it.

Ms. Day reminded Commissioners to keep *HDR/The Hoyt Company* informed of their public outreach efforts so the information could be added to the matrix and posted on the website.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Connie Conley requested that the questionnaire be completed and submitted to EGCC in advance of the October 29 meeting.

NOTE: The Commission recessed from 7:22 p.m. to 7:27 p.m.

- 4.5 Consider revised budget and scope of work for the *HDR/The Hoyt Company*

MOTION/VOTE:

Commissioner Johnson made a motion, Rambo second, to schedule the topic of the *HDR/The Hoyt Company* budget proposal for the regularly scheduled meeting of October 20. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners – Allen, Johnson, Martin, Rambo, and Sendejas-Lopez

Noes: Commissioners – None

Absent: Commissioners – Loveland and Orrock

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Damon Mireski commented that there is currently nothing in the charter regarding youth and suggested that the topic be added to the questionnaire.

NOTE: Item 2 was heard out of order as indicated below.

2. Public Comment (on non-agenda items)

Connie Conley maintained that there has been more “behind the scenes rancor” on the Charter Commission than any other City Committee/Commission. She recalled having sent Vice Chair Orrock many emails asking him to be mindful of the City’s Code of Ethics, following postings on Elk Grove Online attacking Council Member Gary Davis and accusing Chair Allen of orchestrating meetings to harm the charter effort. Ms. Conley asked Vice Chair Orrock to resign from the Charter Commission.

Michael Quattrociocchi asserted that there was nothing more corrosive to the process of government than representatives engaging in conduct unbecoming of their office. He alleged that such conduct had been exacted by Vice Chair Orrock in the course of his duties. He asked that Vice Chair Orrock tender his resignation in order to restore faith, integrity, and trust in the Charter Commission and charter process.

Council Member Detrick stated that, on several occasions, Vice Chair Orrock had not acted in the best interest of the City of Elk Grove and he has violated the City’s Code of Ethics. Council Member Detrick acknowledged that he previously sent Chair Allen an email requesting that Vice Chair Orrock voluntarily resign and, if he chose not to, he would request that Mayor Hume remove him from the Charter Commission.

Commissioner Rambo stated that he had been the subject of untrue malicious rumors, which Chair Orrock later acknowledged being the source of. He requested that a special meeting be scheduled as soon as possible to consider the requests made this evening regarding Mr. Orrock.

Chair Allen asked that a Special meeting be scheduled on October 8, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. to consider the removal of Christopher Orrock as Vice Chair and to request Mr. Orrock resign from the Charter Commission.

5. General Announcements

None.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/ Susan J. Blackston
City Clerk