

CHARTER COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 7, 1991  
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM

Present

James Cockett  
Dolores Fabrao  
Annette Mondoy  
Robert Nakasone (Chair)  
Victor Reyes  
Allan Sparks  
Anne Takabuki  
Jamie Woodburn  
Susan Nakano-Ruidas (Staff)

Excused

Sherrilee Dodson (V. Chair)  
Lloyd Yonenaka  
Deborah Wright

- I. CALL TO ORDER  
Chair Nakasone noted a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
The minutes of the October 10, October 17 and October 24, 1991 meetings were approved as circulated.
- III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY  
None.
- IV. COMMUNICATIONS - COMMITTEE REPORT  
Chair Nakasone noted that committees have been established and asked each Committee Chair for a progress report:
- A. Article VIII - James Cockett, Committee Chair  
Cockett noted that he will be meeting with Woodburn and Reyes to come to an intelligent course of action for interviewing Department heads. He will seek input from Wright before proceeding.
2. Articles IX through XIV - Anne Takabuki, Committee Chair  
Takabuki mentioned that she met one-on-one with the Budget Director and wants to meet with Council Staff. For the Ethics portion, she would like to have a small committee of Commission members meet with the Board of Ethics.
- NOTE: At this time, Chair Nakasone reminded committee chairs that the committees were created to focus on the specific articles assigned to them, to make a concentrated effort to go through the Charter and to make recommended changes to the full Commission. He further stated that he would like to see a consolidated package of the whole Charter to be presented to the public by February.
3. Articles I through VII - Allan Sparks, Committee Chair  
Sparks presented a verbal report as a result of his November 2 committee meeting which covered the pros and cons of District Schemes vs At-Large.

3. Articles I through VII - Committee Report (Continued)  
Three options developed in the committee meeting were:

a. 9 Equal Districts Option

Advantages include less money required to run and more variety/less well-known candidates can run. Major problem with the District scheme is that it would create "canoe" districts. It would also be more expensive to run for office from the Lanai/Molokai district than for other seats. Another foreseeable problem would be creation of conflict between districts.

b. 7 True Districts/2 At-Large Seats Option

Committee Chair Sparks pointed out that there could be any combination of numbers - Oahu has 4 districts and Big Island has 9 districts. He felt it was feasible to have the Commission do the redistricting.

The advantages and disadvantages to this option would be very similar to the Equal Districts option.

c. At-Large with Residency Requirements/No Non-Resident Seat Option

Advantages to this system include the fact that you don't need to have equal population distribution and that Lanai and Molokai have guaranteed representation. The pool of candidates is smaller with smaller populations and could be seen as a disadvantage.

Committee Chair Sparks will map out preliminaries of options with rationale for presentation to the public. Commission member Woodburn volunteered to help him.

4. Chair Nakasone reminded Sparks about the City Managing Director Option and urged committee members to read the Model City Charter, A Guide for Charter Commissions.

Nakasone also mentioned another area to look into-- the current makeup of the Council. The advantage of Multiple Seat Districts is that it eliminates game playing; disadvantage is plunking.

Chair Nakasone recommended that committee chairs try to hold their committee meetings on the same day as the Commission meetings.

V. COMMUNICATION 91-0

Chair Nakasone announced that he is trying to get Bill Crockett, member of a previous Charter Commission, to attend an upcoming meeting, and that the Mayor will be attending the November 21 meeting.

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V. COMMUNICATION 91-0 (Continued)

Chair Nakasone also mentioned that it might be good to hear from someone (possibly John Hirashima) from the special committee on water.

NOTE: Chair Nakasone requested that staff get a copy of 1987 Charter Commission's special report on water.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Office should be ready in December.

B. Equipment - Chair Nakasone will check with Council Services.

C. Public Meetings on Lanai and Molokai:

Lanai Commission member Fabrao will arrange meeting for December 2 in the Library on Lanai.

Molokai Commission member Mondoy will arrange meeting for December 9 in the Mitchell Pauole Center at 7 p.m.

Chair Nakasone pointed out that a quorum is not necessary for an informational meeting, however, it may be more cost-effective to charter a flight for Commission members attending.

NOTE: Sparks was asked to give brief overview of the Charter at each meeting.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

A. Charter Commission - November 14, 1991, 4 p.m.

B. Committee A (Articles I - VII) - November 14, 1991, 2 p.m.

C. Committee C (Articles IX - XIV) - December 5, 1991, 2:30 p.m.

VII. The meeting was recessed at 5:03 p.m. and will reconvene at 4:00 p.m. on November 14, 1991.

APPROVED:

Robert Nakasone, Chair *11/14/91*  
Robert Nakasone, Chair Date