



OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

REVISED MINUTES OF THE LIAISONS WITH PUBLIC OFFICES COMMITTEE

FOR THE MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2013

Call to Order:

Chair Herb Asher called the meeting of the Liaisons with Public Offices Committee to order at 3:19 p.m.

Members Present:

A quorum was not present with Chair Asher, Vice-chair Taft, and committee members Amstutz and Bell in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

There being no quorum, the minutes of the September 12, 2013 meeting were not approved.

Discussion:

Chair Asher indicated the committee would be meeting jointly with the Public Education and Information Committee.

Chair Asher recognized Catherine Turcer, policy analyst with Common Cause Ohio, to provide her perspective on the issue of public outreach.

Chair Asher inquired whether staff would be needed to accomplish the outreach goals of the committees and Ms. Turcer responded, saying staff would be needed, but there are things that can be done now without a staff.

Committee member Karla Bell asked about the difficulties of maintaining the outreach goals. Ms. Turcer answered that implementation is the biggest struggle and maintenance is not too difficult, especially if there is staff to provide assistance.

Chair Asher then called forward Michael Dittoe, director of communications for the Ohio House of Representatives, to testify on public outreach.

Representative Ron Amstutz mentioned that the staff capacity seems to be a large and reoccurring issue. Mr. Dittoe responded by encouraging the Commission to use the legislators' voice, especially at the state level, while staff is not present.

Chair Asher recognized John McClelland, director of communications for the Ohio Senate, who also provided testimony on the subject of public outreach.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Approval:

The minutes of the October 10, 2013 meeting of the Liaisons with Public Offices Committee were approved.

/s/ Herb Asher

Herb Asher, Chair

/s/ Robert A. Taft

Robert A. Taft, Vice-chair