



OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

REVISED MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE

FOR THE MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2013

Call to Order:

Chair Roger Beckett called the meeting of the Public Education and Information Committee to order at 3:38 p.m.

Members Present:

A quorum was present with Chair Beckett, Vice-chair Macon, and committee members French, Murray, Readler, Saphire, and Tavares in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the June 13, 2013 meeting of the committee were reviewed and approved.

Discussion:

The committee received testimony from Representative Dennis Murray regarding the Commission's hearing locations. The consensus of the committee was that hearings are to be held at the statehouse, with regional panels of the Commission being appointed to hear input and inform the public about the Commission's work. Committee member Richard Saphire suggested that Commission members meet with editorial boards and other groups deemed appropriate, either separately or in conjunction with input hearings, all of which the committee agreed to.

The committee also heard from Rep. Murray on the subject of how the commission is to receive testimony from the public. The committee agreed to a motion that testimony can be taken serially or as part of a panel, with the chairs encouraging that written testimony be provided. The motion included providing reasonable opportunity to question witnesses and, at the suggestion of committee member Chad Readler, setting reasonable time limits for testimony to be determined by the committee chairs.

After committee members reviewed drafts of the co-chairs' public service announcement, open letter to Ohio citizens, and sample newsletter language, they discussed various methods of distributing such information to the public. Senator Charleta Tavares stressed that the Commission should use as many mediums to interact with the public as possible. Catherine Turcer, policy analyst for Common Cause Ohio, and Marcus Gould, a Cleveland community engagement advocate, each briefly offered their views on the best way to reach out to Ohioans.

Chair Beckett provided an update on the Commission website, saying that because the Commission does not yet have staff, he would work with LIS to make the committee's suggested changes on the website before then.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Approval:

The minutes of the July 10, 2013 meeting of the Public Education and Information Committee were approved at the August 8, 2013 meeting of the committee.

/s/ Roger L. Beckett

Roger L. Beckett, Chair

Larry L. Macon, Vice-chair