

**CITY OF OLYMPIA
GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
December 15, 2009**

Present: Chair Jeff Kingsbury, and Councilmember Rhenda Iris Strub. Councilmember Craig Ottavelli was excused.

Chair Kingsbury called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Councilmember Strub requested an amendment to the agenda to add a brief farewell for Chair Kingsbury. The agenda was approved as amended.

Farewell.

Councilmember Strub thanked Chair Kingsbury for his service on the City Council and as Chair of the General Government Committee. Chair Kingsbury recessed the meeting briefly for a farewell reception with the audience. Chair Kingsbury reconvened the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Minutes.

Moved by Councilmember Strub, seconded by Chair Kingsbury to approve the November 24, 2009 minutes as submitted. Unanimously approved.

Advisory Committee Work Plans.

Arts Commission

Present: Trent Hart, Chair; Ellen Drumheller, Commissioner; Stephanie Johnson, Staff Liaison

Chair Kingsbury asked that the minutes reflect that he is glad to see that a work plan item for an Arts Center is included. He noted that it is potentially linked to Artspace. He encouraged the Arts Commission and his fellow Councilmembers to continue to push for ArtSpace to come to Olympia.

In response to a question from Councilmember Strub, Mr. Hart said the commission made a good faith effort to reduce the number of meetings because of the staff reductions. He said that the commission continues to be interested in sponsoring the Ethnic Celebration and the Artists' Garage Sale. Chair Kingsbury noted that those two events had been identified for elimination due to staff and budget cuts. He said that it sounded as if there is sufficient time with the proposed number of meetings for the commission to complete its policy work.

Recommended changes to Arts Commission work plan:

- The item on economic impact study of music industry: General Government Committee recommends the item with the understanding that no or very limited staff time is needed to accomplish the work and that the deliverable is an inventory. The work plan should be changed to reflect that the deliverable is an inventory.

- Add one item - Reviewing protocols for public art.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Present: John Koch, Chair; Kerry Tarullo, Staff Liaison

General Government Committee did not have any changes to recommend.

Mr. Koch confirmed that there should be sufficient time for the committee's work, if there are not additions to the work plan. He said that much of the committee work relative to "Imagine Olympia" will be individual participation by BPAC members in the planned outreach process.

Heritage Commission

Present: Holly Davies, Chair; Jennifer Kenny, Staff Liaison

General Government Committee did not have any changes to recommend.

Regarding the meeting schedule, Ms. Davies said that the inventory will be done in subcommittees. She noted that there are separate meetings for joint design review. The commission is willing to give every-other-month meetings a try, and will modify if needed.

She also noted that the Heritage Commission has been working more closely with Arts Commission regarding heritage as part of Arts Walk.

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC)

Present: Jeff Kingsbury, Chair; Cathie Butler, staff liaison.

General Government Committee did not have any changes to recommend.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC)

Present: Brenda Bulger, Chair; Jody Ott, Vice Chair; Jonathon Turlove, Staff Liaison

General Government Committee concurs with the PRAC recommendation to have a minimum of eight (8) meetings in 2010 and the ability to add additional meetings if needed to accomplish the work plan.

Ms. Bulger noted that the annual survey work is done by committee members individually and does not require a meeting of the committee as a whole.

General Government Committee agreed that any tree assessment is a staff/urban forestry effort, and that perhaps there is the opportunity for interested volunteers from PRAC to participate in any planned staff effort. It should not be a new work effort, if not planned for 2010.

Recommended changes to Arts Commission work plan:

- Donation Policy item, with the understanding that the deliverable is a donation policy as relates to Percival Landing and that it will also include recommendations on donations related to benches. The policy should come to General Government Committee for review, before presentation to full Council.
- Amendment to Park naming Policy process so that there is review by General Government Committee prior to name recommendations being forwarded to full Council.

Planning Commission.

Present: Roger Horn, Chair; Jan Weydemeyer, Staff Liaison

General Government Committee did not have any changes to recommend.

Mr. Horn commented that the commission has a full work load already with 20 scheduled meetings. The commission has two sub committees, and individual commission members will participate in the *Imagine Olympia* comprehensive planning community meetings.

Utility Advisory Committee

Present: Mary Groebner, Chair; Rich Hoey, Staff Liaison

Recommended change to the proposed UAC work plan:

- The committee chair and staff proposed one additional work plan item to take a look at concerns raised by a local business owner about the seasonal water rate structure. General Government Committee concurred with the addition.

Regarding the number of meetings, Ms. Groebner said the committee is scheduled to meet five times in 2010. UAC members are concerned this will not provide enough time for thoughtful deliberations. After discussion, General Government Committee concurred that the UAC should feel free to schedule additional meetings, within reason, if needed to accomplish the proposed work plan. Ms. Groebner said the UAC's preference is monthly meetings starting in February. General Government Committee concurred with the recommendation. Ms. Groebner also noted that individual members may do some independent research.

Chair Kingsbury announced that this was the last meeting of the General Government Committee in 2009. He said that the 2010 Council will determine a process and timeline for consideration of the proposed work plans. He asked that the work plan recommendations from the 2009 General Government Committee be forwarded to the City Council when the work plans are considered in 2010.

Chair Kingsbury thanked all of the committee/commission members and staff for their past outstanding work and for their continued efforts on behalf of Olympia. He said that he has enjoyed working with committees in his role as Chair of General Government Committee.

Chair Kingsbury adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.