

**Government Study Commission
February 10, 2015
Borough Hall
Meeting Minutes**

Commission Members in Attendance: Ken Womack, Dave Sheridan via telephone, Bill Berwick, John Sacrison, Bert Lennon, Blake Wilson, Bob Winston, Phil Shevlin, Stephen Hughes and Secretary Joyce Stone.

1. Call to order

Ken Womack called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

2. Approval of minutes

The November 18, 2014 minutes were amended to reflect the vote tally for the approval of the Carlisle Government Study report recommendation and proposed Home Rule Charter was 9-0. The minutes from the November 18, 2014 meeting were approved.

3. Public comment

Ken Womack noted the public in attendance at this meeting will be permitted to comment on topics as they are discussed throughout the meeting.

No public comment at this time.

4. Old Business

The final report will be amended and resubmitted to reflect the correct day of the primary election as May 19, 2015. The deadline to submit the amended report along with a financial statement is March 20, 2015

Bob Winston inquired if "Yard Signs" to promote Home Rule could be purchased using Government Study funds. After a discussion, Ken Womack will contact the Solicitor for his opinion regarding yard signs. The placing of yard signs is to be no more than 30 days prior to the election, which would be April 19, 2015.

5. New Business

- Provide direction for public dissemination of report and proposed charter

The Commission discussed options for mailing out Home Rule information to the residents by April 19, 2015. Two options were discussed: 1.) Include informational document in the mailing of the Borough Gazette, which will be mailed in March and then follow up with a post card mailer in April. 2.) Send the informational mailing to residents in April as one separate mailer. Joyce Stone will provide an estimate for each option at the next meeting.

Roger Spitz noted he has scheduled a meeting at the Alliance Church on April 20, 2015 at 7:00 PM to discuss Home Rule. The Commission will provide copies of the summary for that meeting.

- Discuss options for education campaign

There was discussion on sending a letter to various organizations asking for the opportunity to speak at their meetings regarding information on Home Rule. John Sacrison will provide a list of potential recipients to receive this letter. Suggested recipients for the list were; candidates running in the upcoming election, DCA, Jim Washington, Service Clubs, Neighborhood Groups and League of Women Voters. The Elm Street Manager will also be contacted.

Bert Lennon will contact the editor of the Sentinel and inquire about meeting with the Sentinel's review board and submitting a guest columnist article.

Bob Winston will contact the Rotary Club and inquiry about the Commission speaking at a Rotary meeting. He also suggested exploring a Dickinson on-campus venue, such as the Clark Forum to hold a public meeting.

There was a recommendation to place a full page advertisement in the local newspapers and the Guide and to utilize the local television stations for publicity. The Commission will discuss options on this topic closer to the election.

The Commission will hold a public hearing as a follow up to the educational mailing.

Discussed utilizing "Smart Talk" radio on WITF, Monday through Friday 9-10:00 AM to discuss Home Rule information. Bob Winston will obtain a contact person.

Ken Womack will generate a FAQ sheet for candidates running in the election to use for addressing Home Rule with constituents. The recommendation was made to use the 4 paragraphs in the letter of transmittal the 5 key points in the document.

The Commission will consider reaching out to Council to see if there is interests in having the Commission attend a council meeting to provide Home Rule information.

Dawn Flower recommended scheduling a meeting with the Republican and Democratic Party members to educate them on Home Rule so they are able to answer questions on Election Day. She noted the democratic point of contact is Don Raley.

Connie Biers will provide a list for the Republican Committee and be their point of contact.

Dawn Flower will help coordinate poll center precincts that would be beneficial for the Commissioners to be present and promote Home Rule information. She also recommended meeting with the Senior Centers and Nursing Homes. Ms. Flower is involved with the local church ministreium that meets monthly. She will ask if the group of local churches would be interest in receiving Home Rule information.

Stephen Hughes recommended having a table with information at the Amani Festival. He will check on the date for this event. He also suggested handing out lapel stickers on Election Day that say "Vote Yes for Home Rule". He is also working on a list of addresses for organizations to send a letter letting them know about Home Rule and the importance of the upcoming vote.

Roger Spitz and Dawn Flower suggested focusing on the 3-2, 3-3 and 5th voting wards to be present during the election with Home Rule information.

- Approve meeting schedule

The next scheduled meeting of the Government Study Commission will be on Tuesday, February, 24, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

6. Public Comment

No public comment

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Stone,
Borough Secretary