

**Government Study Commission
February 24, 2015
Borough Hall
Meeting Minutes**

Commission Members in Attendance: Ken Womack, Dave Sheridan via telephone, 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.

Due to Dave Sheridan being out of the country, he was in attendance via phone. There was discussion with Mr. Sheridan regarding the logistics for his official signing of the Financial Report. He will have it signed, notarized and mailed to Carlisle before the documents are to be submitted to the Board of Elections. Mr. Sheridan ended his phone call with Commission at 7:05 p.m.

2. Public comment

Debra Figueroa introduced Chris Varner as the Borough's new Elm Street Manager. Ms. Figueroa offered to have Mr. Varner help distribute information about Home Rule to the Carlisle citizens.

Mr. Varner explained the Elm Street Manager is the partner program to the Main Street Program. His job will focus on revitalizing the neighborhoods surrounding Memorial Park by improving the design of the neighborhood, improve the neighborhood groups and bringing in new development to that area.

Ken Womack suggested the Elm Street Manager can go beyond the map boundaries listed in his position. This would allow the opportunity to inform a larger population of voters with facts about Home Rule. The Commission is willing to attend the neighborhood meetings to educate the citizens.

3. Approval of minutes

The minutes from the February 10, 2015 meeting were approved.

4. Old Business

- Approve amended Commission Report (to include financial report)
 - There was extensive discussion regarding what date should be used on the final report that is submitted to the Board of Elections. The Commission agreed use March 3, 2015 on the Final and Financial Report and to meet on March 3rd to sign these two documents.
 - The Final Report was amended to reflect the date change.
 - The Commission approved the amended Final Report by a vote of 7-0.

- Approve method and timing for public dissemination of report and proposed charter
 - Estimates for mailing the Final Report to the citizens were reviewed. The Commission agreed to use Rowes Printing with an estimated cost of \$4600.00 for the mailing, with a delivery date of May 1, 2015.
 - Stephen Hughes stated he received an estimated cost of \$600.00 to place a Home Rule insert in the Guide. The commission will discuss placing the advertisement in the Guide if the cost is not greater than \$600.00. Mr. Hughes will verify the cost.
 - The commission agreed to increase the estimated additional expenditures to \$6500.00 on the Financial Report line item for Educational Material. This would include money for additional advertising costs.
 - The Commission approved the Financial Report by a vote of 7-0.
 - Blake Wilson will work on a Home Rule document to be used by the candidates during their campaigning.

- Continue to discuss and approve options for education campaign (review schedule sheet)
 - Neighborhood Associations
 - The Commission agreed to have a table at the Amani Festival.
 - The education sessions at the various clubs and associations were discussed and members were assigned to the events.

 - Media
 - Ken Womack will contact the WITF Radio Station to obtain information on a broadcast for Home Rule.
 - Bert Lennon will obtain information ~~on~~ from The Sentinel Publisher for placing an advertisement insert containing the charter in a special edition-edition of the Sentinel-is going to distribute to all of Carlisle. He will also set up an interview-date-to-meet with the Sentinel editorial staff. and check on television coverage with Channel 27.
 - Bob Winston recommended each Commissioner writing a letter one bullet point from the Charter and submitting the letter to the editor.
 - Ken Womack will send out a letter to the local ministreium, Neighborhood Association and various groups.
 - A press release will be published a week prior to the delivery of the Home Rule mailer.

 - Public Hearings
 - The tentative date for a Public Hearing is May 10, 2015

5. New Business

- The Commission will meet on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 7:00 PM

6. Public Comment

Mr. Roger Spitz stated he had signs made up that say "Vote Yes for Home Rule". These signs can be used at various Home Rule promotional events. He noted the East Side

Neighbors are affiliated with Nextdoor.com, which is another avenue to promote information on Home Rule. Mr. Spitz feels Carlisle Borough Council should take responsibility for promoting Home Rule. Mr. Spitz will get in touch with Council.

Mr. Wayne Ush volunteered to hand out educational material during his voter elections activities. The Commission will provide him the material to hand out.

A recommendation was made to send a complete Charter electronically to the League of Women voters and place handouts at the Library.

7. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Stone,
Borough Secretary