

APPROVED
Date 11-29-94

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

November 8, 1994

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Mike Gates (Chair), George Van Bergen (Vice Chair), Roger Buchanan, Ruth McFarland, Judy Wyers

Committee Members Absent: Roger Buchanan

Chair Gates called the regular meeting of the Governmental Affairs Committee to order at 4:01 p.m.

1. Consideration of October 25, 1994 Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion: Councilor Wyers moved to approve the October 25, 1994 Governmental Affairs Committee meeting minutes.

Vote: Councilors McFarland, Van Bergen, Wyers and Gates voted aye. Councilor Buchanan was absent.

The motion passed.

2. Communications from Local Governments

No communications.

3. Consideration of Draft Resolution No. 94-1985, Requiring Council Confirmation of Appointments to a Committee to Supervise Administration of the Metro Employee Salary Savings Plan

Casey Short, Council Analyst, presented the staff report, and noted the Personnel Department had appeared before the Committee to request an extension of a contract with the company that administered the program at the time during the summer of FY 1994, at which time questions had been raised by the Committee regarding the composition of the committee. He said the composition of the committee had changed on more than one occasion, and that the Committee had asked that a resolution be drafted to address the situation. He said the Draft Resolution No. 94-1985 before the Committee for consideration would provide for Council confirmation of the Executive's appointment to the committee to supervise administration of the Metro Employee Salary Savings Plan. Mr. Short noted a resolution would not be legally binding on the Executive Officer but that it would be expected the Executive Officer would honor the instrument, adding the Council could take action in the form of an ordinance as well.

In response to Councilor Wyers, Mr. Short said he considered writing language that would establish categories for participating members on the committee. He said after discussion with Legal Counsel it was felt other issues might be raised if specific categories were included.

Councilor Van Bergen affirmed he agreed with the approach Mr. Short had taken with the resolution as drafted with regard to leaving categories out of the document.

Councilor Wyers noted a concern might be whether or not a Council Staff member or a Council member be on this committee.

Councilor Van Bergen felt Council confirmation of the appointments expressed Council oversight of the committee sufficiently. Councilor McFarland agreed with that point of view.

The Committee and Staff discussed timing issues for committee appointments.

Paula Paris, Personnel Director, addressed the Committee regarding some cost saving measures brought before the committee previously that had been voted down. She discussed possible changes that could occur when the new Council took its place in January, 1995. She said the Department, having the responsibility to administer the program, was waiting to see the make up of the committee before calling the committee together.

The Committee and Council Staff discussed revising language in the draft to establish the current positions as being adopted upon passage of the resolution. Mr. Short indicated he would revise the language and have a draft ready at the next Governmental Affairs Committee meeting to be held in two weeks.

Councilor Wyers discussed inserting language in the BE IT RESOLVED section that established how often the committee met, as well as language indicating what should be done in order to resolve problems in the event of a possible impasse.

Jaye Fraser, Benefits Officer, addressed the Committee and said it had been her experience that most problems were able to be resolved. She said the Department intended to come before the new Council in January or February with a request to do a Request for Proposals and felt some issues regarding cost savings measures might be solved in that manner. She said the committee had been meeting quarterly to date, but, she said, upon hearing the committee would be changed by the Executive Officer, there was little inclination to have a meeting with a committee whose future was uncertain. She added that currently there were no major issues to be resolved.

Councilor Van Bergen expressed confidence that Council Staff could prepare a document containing the revisions discussed and asked, since he normally picked up his mail at the Council Office, that the revised version be mailed to him. Mr. Short said he would do so.

Councilor Wyers asked that language be included establishing the committee meet at least once a quarter, and said she understood resolve of an issue might mean that the Department would bring the matter before the Council for further discussion.

The matter was continued.

4. Consideration of Draft Resolution No. 94-1986, Approving Amendments to Bylaws of the Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (MCCI)

Mr. Short presented the staff report, and said it was necessary that the MCCI By Laws undergo revision due to changes brought about by the redistricting of the region mandated by the Charter, and said, as such, other revisions to the MCCI By Laws were suggested by the MCCI and reviewed by the Governmental Affairs Committee. He referenced two documents before the Committee; 1) his memorandum dated November 4, 1994 containing an engrossed version of the revised by-laws and 2) Exhibit A, a clean version of the revised by-laws which he noted had been approved by the MCCI at its meeting held Thursday, November 3, 1994.

Bob Bothman, Vice Chair, MCCI, addressed the Committee and confirmed the by-laws before the Committee had been approved at the most recent MCCI meeting, adding that these by-laws represented a compromise from the original version presented in July, 1994. He hoped the changes were for the best, and said the vote, although split on some of the amendments, was unanimous on the final adoption.

Chair Gates said the by-laws before the Committee established 27 members on the MCCI and no alternates with the leadership serving two years maximum in any one office.

Mr. Bothman said the nominating process had been revised, and that rather than having the members nominated from the three county CCI's and CIC's, they were now to be nominated by a committee that was made up of five members, three of which were one from each CCI or CIC, and two members from the MCCI.

Motion: Councilor Van Bergen moved to file Draft Resolution No. 94-1996 with the Clerk of the Council and to recommend Council adoption.

Vote: Councilors McFarland, Van Bergen, Wyers and Gates voted aye. Councilor Buchanan was absent.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

5. Councilor Communications

The Committee discussed the time and date of its next meeting. Chair Gates called the next meeting to be held at 3:00 p.m., November 22, 1994 as the full Council was scheduled to meet at 4:00 p.m. on that date due the Thanksgiving holiday.

6. Recognition of Guests

None in attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn E. Geary-Symons
Committee Recorder

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