



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

January 3, 2024

10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair
Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Karla Bigham
Sen. Julia Coleman
Mary Pattock
Commissioner Marion Greene
Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn
Rep. Jon Koznick
Renae Pereira-Webb
Sen. Port
Rep. Mark Wiens
Sen. Dibble

Excused:

Professor Myron Orfield
Kristin Beckmann
Jeff Reed

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:17 AM. A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Mayor Hovland suggested an amendment to the draft Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2023. He proposed that language under the “Presentations & Discussion on Home Rule Charters” header be amended to say that “Robert Liberty testified as to how the home rule charter process functions with an elected council.” Rep. Hornstein moved to amend the draft minutes per Mayor Hovland’s suggestion, and that motion prevailed. Senator Pratt moved to adopt the amended Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Update on Public Engagement:

The following dates, times, and locations are all confirmed for upcoming public engagement meetings for the task force:

- Friday, January 5, 2024, at 12pm at the University of Minnesota’s Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center in Minneapolis; and
- Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 6pm at the Scott County Government Center in Shakopee

Presentations and Discussion on Previous Proposed Legislation:

Senator Pratt discussed his bill, SF2809 (2018), which would have created a COG model of governance for the Metropolitan Council. Senator Dibble discussed his bill, SF1624 (2023), which would have created an elected Metropolitan Council, as well as his former proposal for a Charter Commission. Rep. Koznick discussed his bill, HF3323 (2023), which would have provided for continued governor appointment of Metropolitan Council members but with staggered terms and expanded membership of the nomination committee.

Public Testimony:

Karen Shell, Betty Ford, Deb Kevsten, and MN State Representative Steve Elkins provide in-person public testimony.

Chair Hornstein directed members to the written testimony of Jim Schoettler which was included in members’ folders.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:27pm.