

MINUTES OF AN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL

January 07, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Present: Mary Balbier
Kevin Tanski
Barb Paulitzky
Ron Van Kirk
Meg Ryan Shockey
Andy Celcherts
Kathy Pucci

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance.

President Van Kirk opened the floor for nominations for Council President. **MOTION** by Celcherts, second by Tanski for Ron Van Kirk. No other nominations were motioned. **VOTE RESULTED: For Ron Van Kirk for President:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts. Abstain: Van Kirk, Pucci. No: Balbier. Councilwoman Pucci stated her reason for abstaining was she felt there was not a lot of communication with all the Councilmembers, and hopes it can be improved upon this year. **(PRESIDENT – Ron Van Kirk)**

President Van Kirk opened the floor for nominations for Council President Pro-Tem. **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Ryan Shockey for Andy Celcherts. No other nominations were motioned. **VOTE RESULTED: For Andy Celcherts for President Pro-Tem:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Pucci. Abstain: Balbier, Celcherts. No: None. Councilwoman Balbier stated her reason for abstaining is she feels it's the same scenario. **(PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE – Andy Celcherts)**

President Van Kirk said there are four positions to fill:

He opened the floor for nominations for Planning Comm. representative. **MOTION** by Ryan Shockey, second by Celcherts for Ron Van Kirk. **VOTE RESULTED: For Ron Van Kirk for rep. to Planning Comm.:** Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci. No: None **(PLANNING COMM. REP. – Ron Van Kirk)**

He opened the floor for nominations for Rec Board representative. **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Ryan Shockey for Kevin Tanski. **VOTE RESULTED: For Kevin Tanski for rep. to Rec Board:** Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci. No: None. **(RECREATION BOARD REP. – Kevin Tanski)**

He opened the floor for nominations for Domestic Violence Comm. representative. **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Paulitzky for Meg Ryan Shockey. **VOTE RESULTED: For Meg Ryan Shockey for rep. to Domestic Violence Comm.:** Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci. **(DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMM. REP. – Meg Ryan Shockey)**

He opened the floor for nominations for Economic Development Comm. representative. **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Paulitzky for Andy Celcherts. **VOTE RESULTED: For Andy Celcherts for rep. to Economic Development Comm.:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Pucci. Abstain: Celcherts. No: Balbier. **(ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMM. REP. – Andy Celcherts)**

President Van Kirk said assignments have to be made for the three standing committees, and other positions, as follows:

Finance Committee: Councilmembers Paulitzky, Pucci, Van Kirk
Public Works Committee: Councilmembers Celcherts, Pucci, Tanski
Public Safety & Environmental Committee: Councilmembers Balbier, Paulitzky, Van Kirk
Legislative Update: Councilwoman Balbier
Sustainability Committee: Councilman Tanski
School Board Liaison: Councilwoman Ryan Shockey
Volunteer Fire Dependents Board: Councilmembers Balbier, Pucci
Fair Housing Rep.: Councilwoman Ryan Shockey

President Van Kirk said, per the Public Notice put it, Finance, Public Works and Public Safety will convene to pick a chairman and adjourn.

It was confirmed that Council meetings will be the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Council Rules need to be discussed and considered. He asked for any suggestions for discussion for 2019 Rules.

Councilwoman Pucci noted that Rules need to be tweaked because of BoardDocs and passed out some changes she suggests.

-Rule 4, Opening Procedures: '...prayer shall be led by a designee by current Councilmembers...' add 'or the Councilmember' because they have that option.

-Rule 14, Miscellaneous Business and Concerns for the General Public: '...(limited to five minutes)...' added 'for each speaker'. But under Public Participation it states 'public participation will be limited to five minutes per person.' So suggests striking the whole sentence (or add 'for each speaker'). There was brief discussion, and it was decided to strike it from the beginning of the Rule.

-Rule 28, Council Mailbox: eliminate putting 'the packets' in the mailbox...' The rest remains the same.

-Rule 29, Posting of Agenda: 'and also provide to Councilmembers via BoardDocs' instead of 'in their mailboxes', and also 'delivered to Councilmembers via BoardDocs'.

-She asked Dir. Butler to draft a Computer Internet and Electronic Mail Policy for Council. Council doesn't work for the Administration and it doesn't apply to be under the Policy and Procedure Manual. He took from our current policy and applied it to Councilmembers. She didn't know if it should be a rule stating Councilmembers agree to adhere to the Policy attached.

-She had other suggestions: That Council packets are now delivered in digital form via BoardDocs. And, for lengthy legislation, exhibits or reports, Councilmembers may request paper copies from the Clerk of Council to be placed in their mailbox.

There was brief discussion about the suggested Internet/Email Policy. Councilmembers will look at this further and review the suggested Policy.

Clerk Banish noted that, referring to Rule 29, BoardDocs is set up that the public does not see the Agenda until Friday after midnight (Council sees it right away). There was brief discussion with a change to be made reflecting this.

Councilwoman Ryan Shockey had questions regarding Absences: do we want to define 'excused absence'. Other cities require notification with the reason for missing and it's announced (to keep up as to why people are missing meetings). There was brief discussion and some examples were shared. It was noted it's addressed in Rule 9; President Van Kirk said he always announces someone is excused, but he understands the question of what is the excuse. He suggested to change to, 'A member shall inform the Council President if the member will be absent from the meeting, and state a reason as to why there will be absent' or to that effect, which would make it an excused absence. There was further discussion. Clerk Banish pointed out she gets calls; but President Van Kirk said the calls should go to him, or in his absence the President Pro-Tem (Councilman Celcherts).

President Van Kirk said he's brought up before limiting the time members have to speak in their reports; he'd like to limit that time to five minutes per individual. He said it seems ample time to give Council reports. Under Order of Business, #8, add (limited to five minutes). Councilwoman Pucci said everyone should be limited, including the Mayor, so everyone is on the same clock. Pres. Van Kirk said it would be for across the board. Everyone agreed to it.

MOTION by Pucci, second by Ryan Shockey to agree to amend the Rules, subject to reviewing a draft, as was discussed this evening, and everyone getting a change to read Dir. Butler's Computer and Electronic Use Policy, and decide after, to add as an attachment or other. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To approve preparation of amended rules:* Yes: Tanksi, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci. No: None. **Approved draft changes to Rules.**

President Van Kirk asked Councilwoman Pucci, as she previously mentioned, what more communication she was looking for; she said ongoing communication, and gave an example of the Brooklyn Acres, and he not contacting her. There was some brief discussion about it.

Councilwoman Pucci asked about a vacancy on the Rec Board, but there was no information at that time. There was some discussion.

There being no further business, **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Pucci to adjourn. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Adjourn:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(ADJOURNED)**

Mary-Jo Banish
Clerk of Council

Ron Van Kirk
President of Council

Minutes approved: 01.28.19