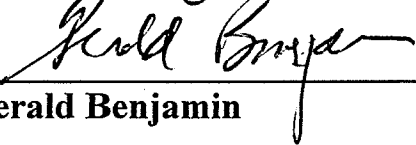


**CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION MINUTES  
APPROVAL**

Meeting Minute Date: 12/11/2017 Revised

  
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**Rod Futerfas, Chairperson**

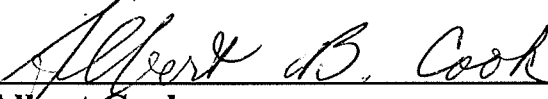
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**Gerald Benjamin**

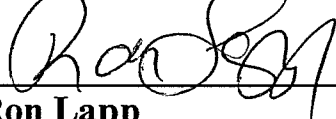
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**Gary Bischof**

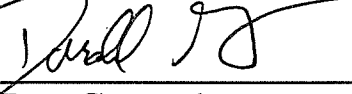
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**Albert Cook**

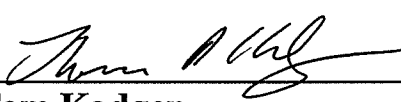
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**Ron Lapp**

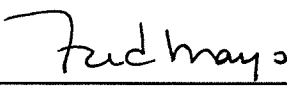
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**Don Gregorius**

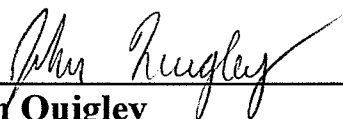
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**Tom Kadgen**

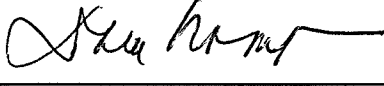
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**Fred Mayo**

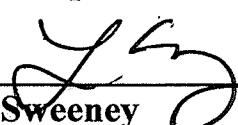
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**John Quigley**

1/27/18  
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**Dare Thompson**

1/22/18  
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**Laurel Sweeney**

1-22-18  
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**Date**

**ULSTER COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
MEETING MINUTES**

**NAME OF GROUP:** Charter Revision Commission

**DATE:** December 11, 2017

**TIME:** 3:30 PM

**PLACE:** Library Conference Room, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
County Office Building, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rod Futerfas, Gerald Benjamin, Tom Kadgen, Gary Bischoff, Albert Cook, Laurel Sweeney, Don Gregorius, and Dare Thompson

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** John Quigley and Fred Mayo

**OTHERS ATTENDING:** Beatrice Havranek, Esq., Ulster County Attorney  
Kristin Gumaer, Esq., Assistant Ulster County Attorney  
Eric Stock, Paralegal, Ulster County Attorney's Office

**1. Call the Meeting to Order:**

Chairman Futerfas called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM

**2. Minutes of the November 27, 2017 Meeting:**

Chairman Futerfas asked what the pleasure of the Commission was with regard to approval of the minutes of the November 27, 2017 meeting.

Commissioner Cook requested the minutes be amended to correct the meeting date to the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Kadgen made a motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

Chairman Futerfas called the question.

All were in favor.

Motion Carried.

**3. Old Business:**

Chairman Futerfas asked Commissioner Benjamin to review his memorandum regarding: Background on Current Reapportionment Provisions.

Commissioner Benjamin reviewed his memorandum with the Commission. Commissioner Benjamin noted the importance of the process created by Ulster County was that it actually worked and was historical.

Chairman Futerfas asked why the process was not successful in Dutchess and Suffolk.

Commissioner Benjamin explained the Dutchess County Charter does not provide a way to go straight to the people for approval of districts, and that Suffolk County designed a process that was not practical in that the pool of possible commissioners was too constrained by explicit charter requirements.

A brief discussion was had regarding the current process.

#### **4. New Business:**

The Commission began their review of section C-10 of the Ulster County Charter.

The Commission discussed various topics including the applicability of the Voting Rights Act to their task of revising section C-10, legislative involvement in the revision and redistricting process, and the number of votes required to pass revisions to the Charter.

The Commission discussed setting a regular meeting. It was agreed the next meeting would be held January 8, 2018 and the Commission would look to establish a regularly scheduled meeting after that.

Chairman Futerfas directed the Commission to section C-10 A.

The Commission discussed the establishment of the pool from which the Reapportionment Commissioners would be selected.

Chairman Futerfas asked the Commission to share their thoughts on the Redistricting Commission consisting of seven members. The Commission discussed the number of members and felt seven continues to be an appropriate number.

Commissioner Gregorius asked what constitutes a "County resident." Commissioner Benjamin asked if there is a standard definition. County Attorney Havranek informed there are definitions in both Public Officers Law and Election Law but, it is not defined in the Charter. Discussion was had regarding potential revisions to the second sentence of section A. Commissioner Bischoff suggested revising the beginning of the second sentence to read: "This Commission shall consist of seven members who are County residents and are registered to vote in Ulster County....." The Commission agreed to this change.

Chairman Futerfas asked the Commission what its thoughts were on the requirement that potential Redistricting Commissioners have not been a public officer, employee, etc. for the preceding three years. Discussion was had. The Commission agreed to maintain the three year requirement.

**5. Public Comment**

No Public Comment

**6. Adjournment**

Commissioner Gregorius made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

Chairman Futerfas called the question.

All were in favor.

Chairman Futerfas adjourned the meeting at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Stock  
Ulster County Attorney's Office