



OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

REVISED MINUTES OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION AND UPDATING COMMITTEE

FOR THE MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2013

Call to Order:

Chair Dennis Mulvihill called the meeting of the Constitutional Revision and Updating Committee to order.

Members Present:

A quorum was present with Chair Mulvihill, Vice-chair Kurfess, and committee members Abaray, Asher, Beckett, Murray, Obhof, and Walinski in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the October 10, 2013 meeting of the committee were reviewed and approved.

Discussion:

Chair Mulvihill led the committee in a discussion as to the future direction of the committee in terms of recommendations for changing or modifying the initiative and referendum process. Chair Mulvihill noted some committee members had indicated that the committee had not heard from anyone who suggested limiting citizens' ability to engage in direct democracy, suggesting it would be helpful to hear from someone who could offer that perspective.

Chair Mulvihill noted the concern of many people that it seems to be easier to amend the constitution than it does to initiate laws. Some members of the committee expressed that the committee should propose a modification of the constitution to encourage citizens to initiate laws rather than constitutional amendments. The committee has discussed options for accomplishing this goal, with no one advocating change as yet.

Mr. Kurfess indicated a preference that the committee evaluate Article II, Section 26, addressing uniformity of the laws. Chair Mulvihill indicated the committee's mandate does not include this

provision, which, instead has been assigned to the Legislative Branch and Executive Branch Committee.

Chair Mulvihill emphasized that no one on the committee expressed that it would be appropriate to interfere with the prerogative citizens currently enjoy in Ohio with respect to initiatives and referenda. He emphasized that committee members simply expressed a desire to hear both sides of the argument.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned.

Approval:

The minutes of the November 14, 2013 meeting of the Constitutional Revision and Updating Committee were approved at the December 12, 2013 meeting of the committee.

/s/ Dennis P. Mulvihill
Dennis P. Mulvihill, Chair

/s/ Charles F. Kurfess
Charles F. Kurfess, Vice-chair