



OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

**REVISED MINUTES OF THE
JOINT MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE AND
LIAISONS WITH PUBLIC OFFICES COMMITTEE
FOR THE MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014**

Call to Order:

Chair Roger Beckett of the Public Education and Information Committee, called the joint meeting of the Public Education and Information Committee and the Liaisons with Public Offices Committee to order at 9:16 a.m.

Members Present:

A quorum was present with Chair Beckett and committee members Curtin, Peterson, Readler, Sapphire, and Sawyer of the Public Education and Information Committee, and Chair Asher, Vice-chair Taft, and committee members Amstutz and Skindell of the Liaisons with Public Offices Committee in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the February 13, 2014 joint meetings of the Public Education and Information Committee and the Liaisons with Public Offices Committee were reviewed and approved.

Discussion:

Chair Beckett discussed with committee members the items outlined in the meeting agenda were brought forward. Chair Beckett asked for suggestions regarding an e-newsletter. Representative Ron Amstutz suggested that the e-newsletter should be short, but provide links to more in-depth information.

In discussing regional meetings, Governor Bob Taft noted that a lack of staff is a concern and, with it being an election year, these meetings may also pose a problem as they might turn political and veer from the intended purpose of these meetings. He suggested it may not be timely yet to have these regional meetings, but is something to keep on the agenda.

Chair Beckett asked committee members whether they believe that committee reports should be distributed to members as well as being posted on the website, and if so, whether the joint committee should submit such a recommendation to the full Commission. Committee member Richard Saphire said he supports the idea of encouraging committees to submit their reports sooner. Gov. Taft echoed the idea, adding that reports should be submitted within one week of the hearings. Mr. Saphire also mentioned that the length and detail of the reports are sometimes not enough and more detail would be appreciated. Mr. Asher stated that it might be difficult for all matters of discussion to be included in reports if they were to be submitted within too short of a timeframe, especially for subject matter committees. Rep. Amstutz suggested that committee members submit ideas for inclusion in the report, so that a bullet point of every detail would not be necessary. Chair Beckett agreed that topics could be general and not every single matter raised would be in the report.

Gov. Taft moved to have reports submitted within one week of the meeting. Senator Bob Peterson seconded the motion. No objection was raised.

In relation to communication from committees that are submitting recommendations to the full Commission, Chair Beckett asked committee members' opinions about the process for publicizing recommendations. Mr. Asher noted that the executive director and communications person would help to create a process to inform the public as well as to solicit and encourage their participation through various media outlets.

Chair Beckett indicated that any ideas for website updates or thoughts on the position description for the communications staff member are encouraged and can be e-mailed to him.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Approval:

The minutes of the March 13, 2014 joint meeting of the Public Education and Information Committee and the Liaisons with Public Offices Committee were approved at the July 10, 2014 joint meeting of the committees.

Public Education and Information
Committee

/s/ Roger L. Beckett

Roger L. Beckett, Chair

Larry L. Macon, Vice-chair

Liaisons with Public Offices Committee

/s/ Herb Asher

Herb Asher, Chair

/s/ Robert A. Taft

Robert A. Taft, Vice-chair