

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY MEETING
January 26, 2012

The meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairman Brian Denniston at 7:05 p.m..

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chairman

Attendance was taken. There were 42 people present

The minutes of last meeting were read and accepted by Mr. Simmons and Susan Smith.

Michelle Kelson, Corporation Counsel spoke to the committee and informed the group of our role in developing a pool of individuals to serve on the Districting Commission which would reconfigure the city into four wards. Wards would be drawn according to census. The redistricting is part of the approved City Charter revisions.

There is a timeframe of 180 days from November 8, 2011 for the districting commission to have its first meeting.

Ninety days before the first Districting Commission meeting, the CAC has to solicit members for the group. They could do this by visiting neighbors, sending letters and e-mails and taking out newspaper ads. By March 26, the CAC has to solicit, verify and refer. They have until Apr 23 to name appointees.

The seven members of the commission must be over 18 and residents of the City of Newburgh. To be eligible for the committee, potential members also must be registered to vote and cannot be an elected official in the City. The CAC will be responsible for screening interested candidates and verify eligibility. They will refer list of eligible names to City Council.

Of the initial seven members, five will be appointed by the 2012 City Council. The Commission will then appoint the remaining two members. There currently are five members of the City Council. The adopted revisions to the Charter will increase it to seven.

The Commission may need some resources. Funds are available to City Council for Commission.

Ex-Mayor Valentine thanked members of Charter Commission and spoke

We broke for refreshments at 7:40 p.m.

Meeting called back to order at 7:50 p.m.

The Chairman Brian Denniston read the 2012 goals for the City Council which included 36 items.

Roxie Royal said that there needed to be a discussion about turning the rest of the waterfront over to developer because she said people have no access on waterfront.

Pauline Dillard suggested writing a letter for timelines on complaints.

Brian Dennison made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Keller