

Blue Ribbon Commission

Minutes

February 8, 2019

11:00 am

Historic Metropolitan Courthouse
One Public Square
Suite 205
Committee Room 2
Nashville, TN 37201

Members Present: Emily Evans, Gracie Porter, John Cooper, Dave Goetz, Brian Kelsey, Stan Romine, Margaret Darby, Patrick Green, Tracy Kane, Brad Rayson

Members Absent: VM Jim Shulman, Tanaka Vercher, DJ Woodson

The meeting was called to order by Chair Evans at 11:09 am CST.

The Chair asked for approval of the minutes for the meeting held on Jan. 25, 2019. A motion was made by Mr. Goetz and seconded by Mr. Cooper. The motion passed unanimously. The Chair then gave read the notice of appeal rights.

The Chair asked for any comments regarding members' discussions with departments regarding their budget. Mr. Rayson reported on discussions with Metro Social Services and the Public Works Department.

CM Cooper distributed a standard grid format for organizing findings from discussions with department heads.

Mr. Rayson also shared a conversation with Shannon Hall at Metro Human Resources regarding ways in which Metro Employees can submit and share their ideas about cost avoidance and cost savings.

Mr. Green commented on his discussions with Chief Anderson and Sheriff Hall.

The Chair then announced that Nancy Whittemore from General Services would be attending the next meeting to discuss how her department drives savings.

The Chair then outlined deadlines for completing report for April 1 and reviewed submitted suggestions.

CM Cooper indicated that he had received some anonymous suggestions and inquired about procurement and contracting procedures.

The IT Department then made a presentation on how data collection is being used to drive decision making and budget decisions.

The Chair then discussed the core charge of the Commission to use data and evidence.

The Chair then led a discussion on revenue sources and those available for consideration as sources for balancing FY 2019 budget and noted the limited options. CM Cooper asked about the PILOT payments from MWS, Sports Authority and NES and non-tax revenue sources. The Chair then discussed Medicare and Medicaid pass-through payments for emergency transports and other cost recovery.

The Chair discussed the surplus at the Convention Center Authority and the taxes collected as well as taxes directed to CVC. CM Cooper asked about collections of TDZ tax collections. Mr. Goetz asked about how the TDZ collection formula worked and when the base reset.

The Chair then announced that the Revenue Subcommittee was meeting thereafter (members of the Subcommittee included the Chair, Mr. Goetz, Ms. Kane, Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Shulman and Mr. Rayson).

With there being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm CST by an unanimous motion proposed by Mr. Goetz and seconded by Ms. Porter.

The next meeting of the Blue Ribbon Commission will be Friday, February 22, 2019, at 11:00 am CST in Committee Room 2 on the second floor of the Historic Courthouse.