

SUFFOLK COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

MINUTES

A meeting of the Suffolk County Charter Revision Commission was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on January 22, 2009.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sondra Bachety - Chairperson/PO Lindsay's Appointment
Dennis McCarthy - Vice-Chair/Joint Appointment
Arthur Cliff - PO Lindsay's Appointment
Victor Fusco - PO Lindsay's Appointment
Ronald Devine - PO Lindsay's Appointment
Robert Braun - County Executive Levy's Appointment
Jacqueline Gordon - County Executive Levy's Appointment
Thomas Germano - County Executive Levy's Appointment

NOT PRESENT:

Steven Kenny - PO Lindsay's Appointment
Saul Fenchel - County Executive Levy's Appointment
Kathy Giamo - County Executive Levy's Appointment
Roger Clayman - Joint Appointment
Marlene Israel - Joint Appointment
Maureen Liccione - Joint Appointment
Edwin Perez - County Executive Levy's Appointment

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Arona Kessler - Aide to Presiding Officer Lindsay
Bill Shilling - Aide to Presiding Officer Lindsay
Michael Pitcher - Aide to Presiding Officer Lindsay
Jack Caffey - Aide to Presiding Officer Lindsay
Judy Blank - Suffolk County Attorney's Office
Debbie McKee - AME, 2nd Vice President

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

MINUTES TRANSCRIBED BY:

Kim Castiglione - Legislative Secretary

*(*The meeting was called to order at 2:58 P.M. *)*

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay, good afternoon. We're opening the meeting of the Suffolk County Charter Revision Committee today -- Commission on -- what's today, January --

MR. CLIFF:

Twenty-second.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Twenty-second. We do not have a quorum, so we're going to discuss the report that was issued to us by Michael -- how do you say that?

MS. KESSLER:

Pitcher.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Pitcher. He wrote this from our comments and the minutes. He did a nice job I think. What I thought we'd do is we could go over it and any questions, any changes, we can make them at this time. Yes?

MR. BRAUN:

Are we going to do this on the record or are we just going to say the meeting is adjourned for lack of a quorum and then just talk?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

No, we can still have the meeting and discuss the -- as far as I know. We just can't vote.

MR. SCHILLING:

You just can't vote.

MR. FUSCO:

We may have a quorum in five minutes, because Ms. Gordon usually gets here at three o'clock.

MR. BRAUN:

Okay. Fine.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

So we'll just -- but I respect all of your opinions and if you have any changes we can discuss them.

MR. BRAUN:

I do have a question about the extent -- is this our entire -- is this proposed to be our entire report? Or is this -- because it says, the first part says preface, the second part says introduction, and then that's it.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

That's it, right. Well, there will have to be some changes. One of the difficulties I'm going to have is I am leaving next week, and it was suggested that we might have a small recess for a couple of months and then come back after today's meeting, if everybody would agree to that. And something else might come up during that period of time that we would want to address. We can certainly make additions or deletions as we sit see fit.

MR. FUSCO:

I don't have a problem with that.

MR. CLIFF:

Yeah.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Does that meet everybody's -- unless you are just dying to come back in February.

MR. FUSCO:

No, that's --

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

You can.

MR. FUSCO:

No, I'd like to read through -- I want to read through all the minutes, digest all this stuff, make sure Germano knows what he is doing.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Well, you know, it might be a good idea because we do have a lot of minutes to read again, and with the holidays and all that went on, I think certain things might have been forgotten, we might even have changed our opinions. So why don't we just go over this, take a look at it together, and if anyone has any suggestions or comments we'll take those up.

But I wondered, is there anyone here this morning -- this afternoon -- who wanted to do address the Commission?

MR. FUSCO:

Didn't you have something from last time? When we entered the last meeting -- after Roger and I left, there was additional discussion that we missed. I was checking up in the minutes now and there was something at the very end of that meeting where, I'll tell you what was said -- something about -- "I know Debbie Alloncius with AME has also {inaudible} for agency oversight report. So if you want Deborah Alloncius to speak on the staffing issue as well". Something about a staffing issue that came up at the end of the last -- I wasn't there for that.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I believe that -- correct me if I am wrong. Weren't we talking about the opportunity of the Commission heads to fill vacant positions? I think that was the one, wasn't that it,

MR. FUSCO:

Erica {Chase} spoke on it.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay.

MS. KESSLER:

I believe Debbie plans to address that at your next meeting.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I'm sorry. I couldn't hear you.

MS. KESSLER:

I believe Debbie plans to address that at your next meeting.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay.

MR. SCHILLING:

Madam Chairman, just as point of information. We're attaching, it is about 116 pages of the testimony, that we're attaching to the final report, so I just wanted everybody to know that.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah, we will be attaching all the minutes?

MR. SCHILLING:

Well, we weren't going to attach all the minutes. We're attaching all the --

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Not all the minutes, just the comments made by different people who spoke in front of the Legislature -- in front of the group?

MR. SCHILLING:

Exactly, yes.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah, okay. And of course we do have to comment to the members of the Legislature that minutes are available.

MR. SCHILLING:

Yes.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

That they can, if they want to go any further into it. Okay. Let's start. Did you all have an opportunity to read it?

MR. BRAUN:

I have a couple of comments. I don't know how you want to -- is there any formality to this? A couple of places the report refers to this Commission as the Charter Review Commission. I believe the correct name is the Charter Revision Commission.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

It is.

MR. BRAUN:

So it's in the one, two, three, the fourth paragraph says Charter Review. And on the second page, just above where it says a listing of, it says, "The Charter Review Commission" in bold on the second page, the bold sentence, the underlined sentence. And in the paragraph above that also it says review. In each instance it should say revision.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay.

MR. PITCHER:

We'll certainly do a search and replace on all of those. I'm very sorry about that.

MR. BRAUN:

Also, I had mentioned to Arona, number seven of the recommendations, we had referred not only to the Parks Board and the Sewer Commission, but any commission in which the Presiding Officer and the County Executive are automatically members, that they be authorized to appoint representatives with voting power to those commissions, not just in those two instances.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

We did say that, yes.

MR. BRAUN:

But that number seven on the third page doesn't make that clear.

MR. FUSCO:

Should it be added to that and any other commissions on which they serve ex-officio?

MR. BRAUN:

Words to that effect, sure.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I'm not sure how many commissions there are that they have appointees on.

MR. FUSCO:

The idea is that they can send delegates.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Of course, of course. Well, they do.

MR. FUSCO:

For voting power.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Right.

MR. BRAUN:

I had some stylist suggestions, they are not really substantive. I don't know if we want to do address those.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Go.

MR. BRAUN:

In the one -- the one, two, three, the fourth paragraph --

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

On page?

MR. BRAUN:

Beginning with "the public was invited to attend" on the first page.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay.

MR. BRAUN:

I prefer to say that the hearings were not well attended, rather than to say they were poorly attended. And I would also prefer to say that, in the next to the last line it says "with their health, safety and welfare, citizens cannot be expected to pay detailed attention." I would rather say that citizens tend not to pay detailed attention. I think it's just a little strong the way it's -- but that's, again, a matter of personal style.

MR. FUSCO:

I agree with you.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

No, that's a good point. I think that's a very good point. We don't want to say poorly attended even though they were.

MR. BRAUN:

Right.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay. Were not well attended. Okay, everybody agree with that?

MR. FUSCO:

Yep.

MR. BRAUN:

Tend not to pay detailed attention I think is a little softer. Again it's --

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

No, it's a good point.

MR. McCARTHY:

Did we send out to staff -- didn't we send out notices and we contacted civic associations?

MR. SCHILLING:

Yes.

MR. McCARTHY:

I think it might be good if we added that. I think in the past we have. If we showed how we did reach out and make these public. You could just -- Mike, if you could just add that in there?

MR. PITCHER:

Absolutely. I mean, we also sent out press releases and requests for calendar listings to, I don't know, 75 or a 100 newspapers, splitting it up between the east and west for the two public hearings. We'll include that, too.

MR. McCARTHY:

That's a good point. That would be good for the record.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I wanted the east and west. I think that's very important, that we have it on the east end and the west end, so we can just elaborate that a little bit.

MS. KESSLER:

We also had legal notices in the newspapers.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I'm sorry.

MR. BRAUN:

No, no.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Go ahead.

MR. BRAUN:

Then two paragraphs down, it's in the second line we write, "The elected officials invited who offered testimony." I would just rather say the elected officials who offered testimony. Some of them were invited, some of them showed up on their own.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay.

MR. BRAUN:

Again, back on page two. Sorry to jump around. In number three toward the bottom there. Rather than say next to nothing happened to implement the public financing, I would say that, again, it was not well implemented or something that to effect.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

You don't want to say it wasn't well implemented. That implies that --

MR. BRAUN:

All right. It wasn't -- it never achieved its purpose?

MR. PITCHER:

How about was never effectively implemented, or is that too strong?

MR. BRAUN:

That's the same implication.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

No, it's the same implication that you have that they didn't do their job.

MR. BRAUN:

Number three on the bottom of the second page.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

It was adopted by a voter referendum and since then --

MR. FUSCO:

Hasn't been implemented.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

That really isn't the truth. People didn't contribute to it.

MR. BRAUN:

Yeah, it never fully achieved -- never achieved its purpose. How about that?

MR. McCARTHY:

How about explaining the fact that it wasn't implemented due to lack of public funding?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Or something -- yeah, I think it should be -- it's more reference to that, really. That's what happened. We didn't get people volunteering a dollar even, so.

MR. McCARTHY:

Did they get any money at all?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I think they had a few.

MR. BRAUN:

I think they had --

MR. CLIFF:

They had to borrow money to pay the administrator.

MR. BRAUN:

I think they had maybe \$30 or something they collected.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

It was really bad, and we don't want anybody looking up whether or not we did it.

MR. PITCHER:

Shall I make that then never achieved its purpose due to a lack of public funding?

MR. McCARTHY:

Lack of public support after they voted for it.

MR. PITCHER:

Voting doesn't cost anything.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Money does. All right. Let's think of a gentle way to put that.

MR. PITCHER:

If you say public -- excuse me, public funding, it sounds like it was due to a lack of government funding.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yes, it does. It had to be -- it was really contributions that they were looking for.

MR. PITCHER:

How about funding participation by the public?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

It's really a lack of public participation, isn't it?

MR. PITCHER:

We can just leave it at that if you'd like.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

It's a lack of public participation. I think that's really what it is.

MR. PITCHER:

I can certainly just be completely frank about it and say the law required taxpayers to make a voluntary contribution, but that did not occur, and consequently the reforms were ineffective.

MR. BRAUN:

That's true.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

That is true.

MR. McCARTHY:

Take a shot at that.

MR. PITCHER:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

All right. Something terribly diplomatic.

MR. PITCHER:

Yes. I will not take a shot at anybody.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

You are doing well here. Go ahead.

MR. BRAUN:

And the last comment I think that I have is in number five where it continues on the top of the next page. I think the sentence should end so there is no reason for their continued inclusion in the Charter.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Good point, yeah. Okay.

MR. BRAUN:

That's all.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Very nice. Good job.

MR. BRAUN:

Thanks.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I feel like a teacher. Good job, bad job.

MR. BRAUN:

I want a gold star, Sondra.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

You read it. I'm impressed with that.

MR. BRAUN:

Well, listen. We have people who read minutes and other people who read shorter things, you know.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay. Anybody else? Let's see. Any part of it?

MR. McCARTHY:

You know, Sondra, we mentioned right from the start that, and it was mentioned to us, that there are a number of things in the Charter that had to do with the financial crisis in late 80's, early 90's. I'm wondering if the staff could, if it might be a worthwhile exercise, for the staff to look over the next few months at those particular sections of the Charter. Then when we reconvene after a couple of months maybe this would be a good time to take them out.

MR. BRAUN:

We may need our financial rescue provisions again.

MR. McCARTHY:

That's right. No, I'm sure we'll need new ones. But the problem is these are, as I recall, they're very specific to the timeframe.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

At that time.

MR. McCARTHY:

You know, and it might be something that we could just suggest that it be removed if it -- you know?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah, I think that's a good idea.

MR. McCARTHY:

Unless it's supposed to stay for historical significance. I don't know that it is.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

No, the Charter is not supposed to be an historical document. They have old copies they can read.

MR. McCARTHY:

Right. I mean, would that be something that you think we could do?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah.

MR. McCARTHY:

Easy for you to say.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I know you are happy about this. Could you make some notes about -- to look up --

MR. SCHILLING:

Yeah.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay. I think that's a good point. On number ten, I don't really think that -- I hope it wasn't just my comments because I had been a Legislator that we changed the term. It was really part of the debate.

MR. CLIFF:

Number ten?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah, change the term of office. I don't think we need my insights were so valuable.

MR. BRAUN:

I thought they were, but if you don't want to say so we can --

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Well, no, I don't mind. I just -- I mean, I thought other people had a lot of other insights about other issues and we're not really quoting anybody.

MR. BRAUN:

It depends, you know, let me, if I may. That's why I asked if this is the whole document or not. Other than the attachments, if we're just going to attach testimony and so forth and this is it, then maybe not. Maybe we should be more formal in each of these recommendations. If we're going to attach further formal recommendations in line with -- in other words, repeal section such and such and replace with section with these words, if we're going to do that later on in this same document, then I think this is fine the way it is because it explains some of our thought processes.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay.

MR. BRAUN:

But if this is it, then I'm not so sure that a lot of the deliberative part of it belongs in it.

MR. FUSCO:

The only thing on that particular one is Bill Lindsay came in and he said he didn't care.

MR. BRAUN:

Right. I remember that.

MR. FUSCO:

So her insights, then, did become important.

MR. BRAUN:

No, I agree that the explanation is valuable if we're going to say more than this in a more formal way.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Well, my insights were also based on a different political situation that existed in the Legislature, and which could exist again in the future.

MR. BRAUN:

Right.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

It certainly doesn't now, and now it changes things when you have a different makeup of the members of the Legislature politically.

MR. BRAUN:

Right.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

So while this is I thought a very good summary, I, too, think it should be a little more detailed than it is. I think that's what you are saying, isn't it?

MR. BRAUN:

Yes. I mean, and again, if this is intended as its entitled as an introduction and then there's going to be specific recommendations to follow, then this is fine.

MR. FUSCO:

You are going to break the recommendations down to a very basic one, two, three, four, five, six.

MR. BRAUN:

Right. You know, for example --

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Well, Dennis, you have a lot of experience in this. You did this. Come on.

MR. McCARTHY:

At the first meeting, I said that I think everybody was going recall, I said we had Seth, whatever his name was --

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Seth Forman.

MR. McCARTHY:

Seth Forman from the Planning Department do our report and act as the Executive Director to put it all together, and it looked like a planning document.

MR. CLIFF:

Right.

MR. McCARTHY:

I think we should probably follow that format. Then it gets to the other question, does anybody have the time, being that you don't have -- and Seth, I'm sure, was the Executive Director and he probably had 17 people working on it in Lee Koppelman's office at the time, you know? So whether or not you have the resources now to be able to recreate that and --

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

No, they're shaking their heads.

MR. McCARTHY:

With some people going back to college, I don't think that you do anymore, you know.

MR. BRAUN:

I understand. Well, for example, where we say any time the County Executive or the Presiding Officer is an ex-officio member of the board he should be able to appoint a representative with the same voting powers that the County Executive or the Presiding Officer would have had if he were there himself. There needs to be a provision of the law, someplace in the Charter needs to be identified where you say that and the words in which you say it.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah, I think it does.

MR. McCARTHY:

You're absolutely right.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

You are, absolutely.

MR. McCARTHY:

So I think, to get back to the original, Sondra, the document that we should follow is the document that has -- that we had for last time and probably the one before that.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay. I think that makes it clearer that we really do need time to work on this.

MR. CLIFF:

I agree.

MR. FUSCO:

We committed our time. That's not the issue.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah, well, maybe we're going to have to do a little bit more ourselves and certainly I feel that I might have to. So in addition to giving some insights to Mike, who worked on this and put it together for us, I think it's important that perhaps we also add our own comments or wording, which we can e-mail and perhaps that would make it easier.

MR. PITCHER:

That would absolutely make it easier.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

That might be more helpful. I have a copy. I'm sure we all --

MR. PITCHER:

I certainly don't want to misrepresent anybody's position or anything.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

No, of course not. So I think what we'll do is we all have copies of the previous report that was done ten years ago, which was very comprehensive. How many of those things did they adopt, though?

MR. McCARTHY:

Probably ten. How many revisions? I think there were probably ten, something like that. And none were adopted.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

So why don't we then try to do that. Let's see if we can't try to add our own input to it.

MR. BRAUN:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

And what I would suggest we could do is we can e-mail. I'll, you know, we can e-mail all members of the Commission and we'll e-mail here at the Presiding Officer's offices, and that will give everybody an opportunity then to put together perhaps something that would be more inclusive.

MR. BRAUN:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Does everyone agree with that?

MR. McCARTHY:

Sounds fine.

MR. FUSCO:

It gives us time to think.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

It does. I find that myself, if I'm typing something into it, it does clarify my vision of what I'm doing, and I did not do that this time. I haven't had time. I would be happy to do it the warm climate.

Okay. How about as we go along does anyone else have any comments? Artie, Ron?

MR. CLIFF:

Not yet.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

No? Vic?

MR. FUSCO:

No.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY;

I know Vic. He reads all the minutes faithfully. I'm counting on you.

MR. FUSCO:

Now we have a quorum.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Hi. Okay. Let's just get Jackie involved.

MR. FUSCO:

And then move to adjourn.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Jackie Gordon is with us. Jackie, we were just going over the papers that were sent to us that were a copy of the thoughts that Mike put together on the Charter Revision meetings and recommendations, and during the discussion that we've been having so far, we kind of feel that there needs to be some changes, perhaps some broadening of the wordage, maybe a little more formal. We're going to take a couple of months to work on it. As we go through it, we're going to e-mail our thoughts and opinions to Mike, who wrote this for us, and basically you did a really good job of kind of putting together and giving us something to start with. So what we would like is if you have any -- have you had an opportunity to review it?

MS. GORDON:

I have read it, but I haven't delved into it.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay. So do you have any comments that you would like to make before we adjourn?

MS. GORDON:

No, not at this time.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

No. Okay. So then we'll -- assume we will take February and March off, does that sound reasonable, to work on this, to offer our own interpretation, comments, the way it should be written and we'll meet again in April?

MR. McCARTHY:

We need to pick a date.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah, we have to pick a date.

MR. GERMANO:

We have the holidays and the holy days in April, too.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I know. Well, Easter is I believe the 12th, so. Easter is the 12th, so that week would be Easter week I assume when people are off.

MR. CLIFF:

The week before is when the schools are closed. I will be in Florida.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

It's passover. Can we find out if April 23rd --

MS. KESSLER:

That's committees.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Committees. The 30th?

MS. KESSLER:

That should be fine.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

The 23rd is committee week, so how about April 30th?

MR. BRAUN:

What day of the week is that?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

That's a Thursday. Does that sound okay? That will give you time to read everything over again. All right. So we'll set our next meeting then for April 30th at 2:30 here in the auditorium. And in the interim --

MS. GORDON:

I won't be available on that date. I will be away on military duty.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Oh, you're kidding. You're not going to be overseas, are you?

MS. GORDON:

No. But I don't want to stop the show.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay. What I --

MR. FUSCO:

Well, you were the quorum today, so.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

You were very important today.

MR. McCARTHY:

You would have been a show stopper if you didn't show up.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

So I guess, then, our mission right now is to make sure that we go over this, read it, read the minutes. Let's see how we want to embellish the report that we're going to be submitting to the Legislature, which probably is very good because we should be able to do it before they recess for the summer.

MR. CLIFF:

That's one of the things we have to recommend, no recess.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah, that will go far.

MR. FUSCO:

We just want to change the time of the recess.

MR. CLIFF:

I'm sorry. Was it going to be 2:30 again?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Two-thirty. Is that a good time for everybody? No? You prefer later?

MR. CLIFF:

No.

MR. FUSCO:

Some people object to the two for some -- remember?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Yeah, that was a problem, it was.

MR. CLIFF:

Good enough.

MR. FUSCO:

They haven't made the 2:30, those same people, though, I might add, the ones who couldn't make the two.

MR. CLIFF:

That's an excellent point.

MR. BRAUN:

I figured if we moved it up even earlier the County would have to buy us lunch, but --

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

You want to bet?

MR. CLIFF:

How long have you been here?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay. So do we have an agreement? Everybody in accord?

MR. CLIFF:

That sounds great.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Okay. Sounds good. Are there any other issues to come before us today?

MR. FUSCO:

I just want to commend Mr. Germano for being so helpful in today's meeting.

MR. BRAUN:

Why are they picking on you?

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

He's reading the minutes, that's the important thing.

MR. CLIFF:

I'm glad he's back.

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

Well, it was good to see you all in the new year. I'll look forward to seeing you all in April.

MR. BRAUN:

You stopping off here between Italy and Florida was very thoughtful

CHAIRPERSON BACHETY:

I tried to be thoughtful to all of you. Thank you all very much. Have a great day. Talk to you soon.

*(*The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 P.M. *)*

{ } Denotes spelled phonetically