

**Candidates' Debate Workgroup  
Meeting #4  
June 1, 2017  
9:28 – 11:13 a.m.  
City Council Chambers**

**Minutes  
(Approved June 23, 2017)**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Shawn Anderson	X	
Molly MacLaren	X	
Jack Robson	X	
Suellen Ferguson	X	
Janeen S. Miller	X	
Tonnukah Baldrige	X	

The meeting was called to order at 9:28 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Robson and seconded by Ms. MacLaren to approve the minutes of the May 11 meeting without amendment. The motion passed 6 – 0.
2. Ms. Miller has reached out to the Hyattsville Life and Times and the Takoma Voice for their guidelines; no response yet. Ms. Ferguson will reach out to the League of Women Voters.
3. Review of the draft report: The group reviewed the draft report to Council. Ms. Ferguson noted that the draft is subject to some non-substantive rewrite when it is prepared for Council review.
  - a. Discussion about translators. Ms. Ferguson will confirm that there is not a legal requirement for a sponsor to provide a translator. If a resident requests accommodation, would the City be required to provide a translator at our expense? Bring this question to the Council.
  - b. Discussion of Town Halls v. Debates. Rules will apply to both but will be written differently.
  - c. Discussion of how the City will give public notice of authorized debates.
  - d. Discussion about the language for the set-aside time slots. Option 1b – set the time period between 5 and 45 days.
  - e. Review of how rebroadcasts would be scheduled: On a fair and even basis. May preempt rebroadcast of Council meetings.
  - f. Authority for making decisions: Consensus to recommend the City Clerk, City Attorney and City Manager to the Council.
4. Wrap up/next meeting:

- a. The City Clerk and City Attorney will prepare the report for Council based on today's revision. Agenda item scheduled for the June 6 Council Worksession; all members are invited.
- b. We don't know yet whether there is the need for another meeting. Ms. Miller will advise.
- c. We should receive the response from the Ethics Commission shortly.