



# City of Ann Arbor

## Formal Minutes

### Renters Commission

301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
[http://a2gov.legistar.com/  
Calendar.aspx](http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx)

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Tuesday, July 26, 2022

6:00 PM

Electronic Meeting

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**Special Meeting - Public comment can be made by phone at: 877 853 5247 or 888 788  
0099 Meeting ID:  
935 8080 1941 or via Zoom by joining the meeting at:  
[a2gov.org/RentersCommissionMeeting](http://a2gov.org/RentersCommissionMeeting)**

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

*Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM*

**2 ROLL CALL**

*Commissioner Welch attended the meeting from Ypsilanti, MI.  
Commissioner Cohen Smith attended the meeting from Pittsburgh, PA.  
Councilmember Radina attended the meeting from Ann Arbor, and  
Romulus, MI*

*All other members present attended the meeting from Ann Arbor, MI.*

*Staff Present:*

*John Reiser, City of Ann Arbor Senior Assistant City Attorney  
Chris Frost, City of Ann Arbor Senior Assistant City Attorney  
Sarah Alanis, City of Ann Arbor Board & Commission and FOIA  
Coordinator*

*Kristen Vander Lugt, Office Manager, City of Ann Arbor Clerk's Office*

**Present** 11 - Robert P Kelly, Richa Mukerjee, Hannah Cohen Smith,  
Arthur J Redmond, Zackariah Farah, Cozine A Welch Jr.,  
Lucy Peterson, Elizabeth Nelson, Travis Radina, Gayle  
Rosen, and Nicholas Roumel

**Absent** 2 - Kristen Cato, and Dandan Chen

**4 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Agenda approved unanimously, including a friendly amendment to  
hold a Second Public Comment at the end of the meeting.**

**4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**4-A**      [22-1307](#)      Minutes of the July 7, 2022 Renters Commission Meeting

**Attachments:**      7-7-2022 Renters Commission Minutes.pdf

**Moved by Redmond, seconded by Kelly, approved unanimously as presented and forwarded to the City Council.**

**Commissioner Roumel recused due to not yet being appointed to the Commission at the time of the July 26, 2022 Renters Commission meeting.**

**5 INTRODUCTIONS**

*Commissioner Roumel provided a brief introduction.*

**6 PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Michelle Hughes, provided information regarding a possible issue regarding renewing leases at a local apartment community.*

*Evelyn Smith, expressed support for the proposed Right to Renew Ordinance.*

*Nathan Chesterman, expressed support for the proposed Right to Renew Ordinance.*

*Zachary Storey, provided information on their renting experience in Ann Arbor and expressed support for the Right to Renew Ordinance.*

*Faramars, explained that not all renters have the needs of students.*

*Seeing no further speakers, Public Comment was closed.*

**7 BUSINESS**

**7-A**      [22-1294](#)      Approval of Renters Commission Bylaws

**Attachments:**      Renters Commission Bylaws 7-26-22 - DRAFT.pdf

**Amendment 1**

**Moved by Roumel seconded by Welch to strike section 5.9 of the bylaws.**

**Approved unanimously.**

**Yeas:** 8 - P Kelly, Mukerjee, Cohen Smith, J Redmond, Farah, A Welch, Peterson, and Roumel

**Nays:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Cato, and Chen

**Amendment 2**

**Moved by Peterson, seconded by Kelly, to amend the public comment time from two minutes to three minutes in length.**

**Approved Unanimously.**

**Yeas:** 8 - P Kelly, Mukerjee, Cohen Smith, J Redmond, Farah, A Welch, Peterson, and Roumel

**Nays:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Cato, and Chen

**Moved by Welch, seconded by Redmond, to approve the bylaws as amended.**

**On a roll call vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the Renters Commission Bylaws approved unanimously as amended.**

**Yeas:** 8 - P Kelly, Mukerjee, Cohen Smith, J Redmond, Farah, A Welch, Peterson, and Roumel

**Nays:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Cato, and Chen

**7-B**      [22-1295](#)      Draft Renters Commission Regular Meeting Schedule

**Attachments:**      Draft Renters Commission Regular Meeting Schedule.pdf

**The Renters Commission unanimously approved their meeting schedule for regular meetings to take place on the third Thursday of**

each month at 7:30 PM

7-C      [22-1296](#)      Stakeholder Engagement Planning Discussion

**Moved by Farah, seconded by Kelly to establish an ad hoc Tenants Town Hall Planning Committee for the purpose of planning stakeholder engagement.**

**On a roll call vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the motion approved.**

**Yeas:**    8 -    P Kelly, Mukerjee, Cohen Smith, J Redmond, Farah, A Welch, Peterson, and Roumel

**Nays:**    0

**Absent:**   2 -    Cato, and Chen

7-D      [22-1297](#)      Discussion of Compiled List of Work Plan Items

**Attachments:**    Work Plan Items Worksheet.pdf

*The Commission discussed the listed Work Plan and intends to individually rank the items by importance, and approve a compiled list including rankings as a future meeting.*

7-E      [22-1298](#)      Discussion of Proposed Right to Renew Ordinance

**Attachments:**    Proposed Right to Renew Ordinance.pdf, Right to Renew Presentation for 7-26-2022 Meeting.pdf

*The Commission discussed scheduling a Special Meeting for the purpose of further discussion and review.*

**Unanimously postponed to a future meeting, date uncertain.**

7-F      [22-1299](#)      Plan for Next Renters Commission Meeting

**SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT**

*SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT*

*A Foster, expressed support for Renters Commission and their work,*

*provided feedback on topics discussed at the meeting.*

*Aram (Last name unknown), discussed the Right to Renew Ordinance, suggesting changes for clarity.*

*Seeing no other speakers, the Chair closed Second Public Comment.*

**8 COMMUNICATIONS**

**8-A**      [22-1300](#)      Communication to the Renters Commission

**Attachments:**      Email from Farah -Renters Commission  
Communication.pdf, Email from Storey - Renters  
Commission Communication.pdf, Email from Storey -  
Housing Voucher Email.pdf, Email from Storey -City  
Inspection Email.pdf

**Received and Filed**

**9 ADJOURNMENT**

**Unanimously adjourned at 9:30 PM**

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