



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

TAX REFORM COMMISSION
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EDWARD A. SCHWARTZ
Chair

Summary of Meeting
Wednesday, March 5, 2003
Submitted by:
Christopher Dwyer, Executive Director

The meeting came to order at 8:40 a.m.

1. Commissioners reviewed the minutes of the February 19 meeting, with members noting the minutes should be amended to include the specific information requests made of the Revenue Commissioner. Staff was asked to revise the minutes and resubmit them at the March 5 meeting for approval.
2. The Chair summarized the Report of the Interview Committee recommending Christopher Dwyer for the position of Executive Director.
3. The Commission voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Dwyer as Executive Director of the Commission staff, effective immediately.
4. Mr. Mandel withdrew his candidacy for permanent Chair, leaving Messrs. Schwartz and Weintraub as candidates. After a secret ballot elected Mr. Schwartz permanent Chair by the required simple majority, he was chosen unanimously to serve as permanent Chair by a voice vote.
5. The Commission postponed the vote for permanent Vice Chair until March 19. Mr. Taubenberger and Mr. Weintraub were nominated as candidates for the position.
6. The Commission passed a Resolution defining immediate responsibilities of the Executive Director in preparing for the next meeting, Wednesday, March 19, 2003, 8:30-10:30 a.m.:

The Executive Director will work with a committee comprising Commissioners and Advisory Committee members to report back to the

Commission Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2003

full Commission at our meeting on March 19 with a work plan for the organization of the Commission's development of hearings and implementation of research needed to make informed decisions in relation to our tax system.

A work plan committee was formed, consisting of Messrs. Cruz, Forkin, Jones, Mandel, Schwartz, Stein, Taubenberger, Weintraub, and Advisory Committee participants Ruth Gaskins of the Urban League and David Thornburgh of the Pennsylvania Economy League, Eastern Division.

7. Of 23 Advisory Committee member groups, the following five were represented at the meeting (Community Legal Services and Institute for the Study of Civic Values representatives are represented on the Commission itself):

Philadelphia National Organization for Women (NOW)
Pennsylvania Economy League
Pennsylvania Institute for Certified Public Accountants
Urban League of Philadelphia
West Philadelphia Partnership

Advisory Committee members and members of the public commented on the group's mission, its progress so far, and asked to be more involved in its work.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.