BI-PARTISAN PREPARATORY COMMISSION TO ASSEMBLE INFORMATION ON CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS IN PREPARATION FOR A VOTE BY THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS ON THE HOLDING OF A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE XIV SECTION 2 OF THE RHODE ISLAND CONSTITUTION

July 31, 2014 – Meeting Notes

I. Call Meeting to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Leo Skenyon, Chief of Staff for the House Speaker. At Mr. Skenyon's request, the members of the commission then introduced themselves individually. A quorum of members was noted as present.

II. Election of Co-Chairpersons:

A motion to nominate Rep. Keable as co-chairman of the commission was made, seconded and passed unanimously. Next, a motion to nominate Senator McCaffrey as co-chairman of the commission was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

III. Discussion of Commission's purpose.

Co-chairman Keable led a discussion, later joined by co-chairman McCaffrey regarding the precedent of past preparatory commissions on constitutional conventions having traveled around the state for public hearings.

Based on that history, co-chairman Keable moved that this commission schedule public hearings for Newport, Narragansett, Burriville and one final meeting at the state house and that members share their upcoming vacation schedule with staff members for planning purposes. The motion was seconded.

Senator Hodgson questioned the time frame involved in submission of the Commission's final report. Co-chairman Keable stated a goal of late August early September for a submission date, in light of the September primaries.

The motion then passed without objection.

IV. Next meeting

(The commission did not set a date or location for the next meeting).

V. Adjournment

Co-chairman Keable made a motion for adjournment, which was seconded and passed unanimously.