

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2017
CITY HALL, MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM
3:00 PM**

Members Present:	Jeff Webster, <i>Chair</i> ; Mike Gallagher, <i>Former Elected Official</i> ; Francisco J. Garza, <i>Municipal Law Expert</i> ; Art A. Hall, <i>Former Elected Official</i> ; Patricia Rodriguez Oliver, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Dr. Francine Romero, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Richard Perez, <i>Community Representative</i> ; John Gilbert, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Margaret Anaglia, <i>Former City Employee</i> ; Frank M. Garcia, <i>Community Representative</i>
Members Absent:	Sharon De La Garza, <i>Human Resources Expert</i> ; Juan Garcia, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Deborah Gray Marino, <i>Community Representative</i>
Others Present:	Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Camila Kunau, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Roderick Sanchez, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Assistant to the City Manager</i> ; Patrick Steck, <i>Special Projects Manager</i> ; Isaac Bernal, <i>Management Fellow</i> ; Michael Shannon, <i>Director of DSD</i> ; Melissa Ramirez, <i>Assistant Director of DSD</i> ; Liz McLeod, <i>District 7</i> ; Cecily Hope Pretty, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i> ; Mario Bravo, <i>Citizen</i> ; Andres Peña, <i>Citizen</i> ; Casey Whittington, <i>Citizen</i> ; Alyssa Pope, <i>Citizen</i> ; Chiara Pride, <i>Citizen</i> ; Cosima Colvin, <i>Citizen</i> ; Rhett Smith, <i>Citizen</i>

Chair Jeff Webster called the meeting to order. He noted that Councilmember John Courage had submitted a Council Consideration Request (CCR) regarding candidate filing requirements and that the Commission was already addressing said concerns. He asked those members present to introduce themselves.

1. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Richard Perez moved to approve the Minutes of the Charter Review Commission meeting of July 10, 2017. Mr. Mike Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Webster addressed Items 2 and 3 jointly.

2. Subcommittee Reports and 3. Discussion of Possible Charter Amendments

Chair Webster addressed the Governance Subcommittee. He asked if Councilmember Courage’s CCR was an issue for the Commission to address or if it was a legislative issue. Ms. Camila Kunau replied that barring a state-level legislative change, the City Clerk would not be granted additional authority to

disqualify potential candidates based on residency. Mr. Frank Garza stated that the City Council could adopt an Ordinance to strengthen the requirements and allow the City Clerk more ability to refuse an application. Dr. Francine Romero reiterated the subcommittee's recommendations from the previous meeting.

Chair Webster asked of the Ethics Subcommittee. Mr. Art Hall replied that the subcommittee examined four issues: (1) sunset process for boards and commissions; (2) number of Council districts; (3) composition of the Ethics Review Board; and (4) language amendments. He stated that the subcommittee had no recommendations except for minor language amendments.

Mr. Gallagher expressed his disappointment with the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation regarding the number of Council districts. He discussed his time as a Councilmember and the difficulty in responding to all residents' needs. Mr. Hall and Mr. Perez replied that they did not experience difficulty with this as former Councilmembers in similarly sized districts. Dr. Romero added that she agreed with Mr. Gallagher's comments and stated the importance of allowing the public another chance to speak on the recommendation. Chair Webster mentioned an increase in local and neighborhood organizations that raise the demands on Councilmembers and their staff compared to previous terms.

Chair Webster asked for recommendations from the Development Subcommittee. Mr. John Gilbert stated that the group researched the historical district representation on the Planning Commission going back to 2006. He noted that the Planning Commission required technical expertise and it was more important to appoint qualified professionals than to consider their Council district and therefore the subcommittee had no recommendation at this time. He added that the subcommittee wished to hold more meetings to finalize their report.

Chair Webster addressed the Bond Issuance Subcommittee. Mr. Frank Garcia read a proposed language change to the Charter to allow bonds to be issued for "permanent public improvements or for any other public purpose." Mr. Garza added that this language would allow bonds to be used for housing purposes. He and Mr. Gallagher expressed concern that the language was too broad and would allow more projects to qualify than intended. Chair Webster asked of public input regarding this issue. Mr. Garcia replied that citizens who attended the public hearings desired assistance with owner occupied rehabilitation. Ms. Patricia Rodriguez Oliver stated that the proposed Charter change would not allow such private projects to be funded.

4. Discussion and Possible Scheduling of Future Meetings

Mr. Garza suggested that Chair Webster base future scheduling on those subcommittees that were still in progress regarding their recommendations. Chair Webster agreed to work with the subcommittees to set the next meeting. He asked that subcommittee chairs communicate if they are asked to speak before groups regarding the Commission's work.

5. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Webster, Chair

Cecily Hope Pretty, Office of the City Clerk

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