

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2017
SAN ANTONIO CENTRAL LIBRARY
6:00 PM**

Members Present:	Jeff Webster, <i>Chair</i> ; Councilmember Mike Gallagher, <i>District 10</i> ; John Gilbert, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Francisco J. Garza, <i>Municipal Law Expert</i> ; Sharon De La Garza, <i>Human Resources Expert</i> ; Frank M. Garcia, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Art A. Hall, <i>Former Elected Official</i> ; Margaret Anaglia, <i>Former City Employee</i> ; Patricia Rodriguez Oliver, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Dr. Francine Romero, <i>Community Representative</i>
Members Absent:	Richard Perez, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Juan Garcia, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Deborah Gray Marino, <i>Community Representative</i>
Others Present:	Camila Kunau, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Lina Rodriguez, <i>Executive Assistant to the City Clerk</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Assistant to the City Manager</i> ; Lauro De Leon, Jr., <i>Citizen</i> ; Colleen Waguespack, <i>Citizen</i> ; Stanley J. Mitchell, <i>Citizen</i> ; Bob Martin, <i>Citizen</i> ; Nikki Kuhns, <i>Citizen</i> ; Jim Campbell, <i>Citizen</i> ; Gerald Ripley, <i>Citizen</i> ; Elena Guajardo, <i>Citizen</i> ; Stacey Debner, <i>Citizen</i> ; Rhett Smith, <i>Citizen</i> ; Stan Mitchel, <i>Citizen</i> ; Janet Ahmad, <i>Citizen</i> ; Alice Salinas, <i>Citizen</i> ; John Whitsett, <i>Citizen</i> ; Patrick Von Dohlen, <i>Citizen</i> ; Michael Von Dohlen, <i>Citizen</i> ; Dani Petri, <i>Citizen</i> ; Michael Black, <i>Citizen</i> ; Noelani Sanchez, <i>Citizen</i> ; Andrea Fernandez, <i>Citizen</i> ; Mairin Derk, <i>Citizen</i> ; Chiara Pride, <i>Citizen</i> ; Matteo Treviño, <i>Citizen</i> ; Madison Porrás, <i>Citizen</i> ; Alyssa Pope, <i>Citizen</i> ; Casey Whittington, <i>Citizen</i> ; Homer M. Hanger, <i>Citizen</i> ; Ricki Kushner, <i>Citizen</i> ; Zachary Cochran, <i>Citizen</i> ; John Butchkosky, <i>Citizen</i> ; Cosima Colvin, <i>Citizen</i> ; Emilie Christian, <i>Citizen</i> ; Sergio Sanchez, <i>Citizen</i> ; Emily Bourgeois, <i>Citizen</i> ; Samsara Davalos Reyes, <i>Citizen</i> ; H. Drew Galloway, <i>Citizen</i> ; Helen Ramos, <i>Citizen</i> ; Alex Birnel, <i>Citizen</i> ; Christian Rodriguez, <i>Citizen</i> ; Linda Maldonado, <i>Citizen</i> ; Steven Padilla, <i>Citizen</i> ; June Kachtik, <i>Citizen</i>

Chair Jeff Webster called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Mike Gallagher moved to approve the Minutes of the Charter Review Commission Meeting of May 24, 2017. Mr. John Gilbert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Public hearing on possible amendments to the City Charter

Chair Webster called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Mr. Lauro De Leon, Jr. stated his desire for a Charter amendment to include developers and nonprofits for housing improvements.

Ms. Colleen Waguespack shared a letter on behalf of Mr. Chuck Saxer. The letter asked that the Ethics Review Board be independent of the Mayor, Council, and City Manager with an independent auditor.

Mr. Stanley J. Mitchell noted his affiliation with San Antonio Making Bureaucracies Accountable (SAMBA). He introduced a Financial Transparency Act to change the way capital costs and bonds are reported to the public.

Mr. Bob Martin identified himself as the president of the Homeowner Taxpayer Association of Bexar County. He asked that term limits be reduced from four terms to two. He suggested reductions in referendum and recall requirements. He noted his concern with financial disclosures regarding bonds.

Ms. Nikki Kuhns noted her affiliation with LULAC Concilio Zapatista and read a letter from Mr. George Alejos. The letter asked for an amendment to allow citizens to select the meters they prefer from local utilities.

Mr. Rhett Smith asked for an amendment to recognize San Antonio's heritage prior to European discovery. He asked for a commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Mr. Jim Campbell suggested that the Planning Commission have equal district representation. He stated his support for a formal sunset process for boards and commissions.

Mr. Gerald Ripley suggested reductions in the requirements for referendum and recall.

Ms. Elena Guajardo asked that candidates for office be required to produce more proof of residency. She stated her opposition to moving elections to November. She suggested district appointments for the Planning Commission.

Ms. Alice Salinas identified herself as the senior program officer at the Local Initiatives Support Corporation. She asked for an amendment to allow for affordable housing bonds.

Mr. John Whitsett stated his support for several amendments to the bond process to increase transparency.

Mr. Patrick Von Dohlen, Mr. Dani Petri, and Michael Von Dohlen discussed amendments proposed by the San Antonio Family Association. They asked for a reduction in requirements for recall and referendum. Mr. Von Dohlen suggested more restrictions on those who could be appointed to boards and commissions. He stated his opposition to affordable housing bonds.

Mr. Michael Black noted his affiliation with UTSA and MOVE San Antonio. He asked for an amendment to give each district representation on the Planning Commission.

Ms. Noelani Sanchez noted her affiliation with UTSA and MOVE San Antonio. She expressed her support for equal district representation on the Planning Commission.

Ms. Andrea Fernandez noted her affiliation with UTSA. She asked for an amendment to move the elections to November of odd-numbered years to increase voter turnout among students.

Ms. Mairin Derk noted her affiliation with UTSA and MOVE San Antonio. She asked that elections be moved to November of odd-numbered years to increase voter turnout and representation.

Ms. Chiara Pride noted her affiliation with MOVE San Antonio and Trinity University. She expressed her support for moving elections to November of odd-numbered years. She asked that term lengths be extended to allow elected officials more time to work on long-term projects.

Mr. Matteo Treviño noted his affiliation with UTSA. He asked for elections to be moved to November of odd-numbered years to save taxpayer money.

Ms. Madison Porras noted her affiliation with UTSA and MOVE San Antonio. She asked for an amendment to change terms to two 4-year terms so elected officials can accomplish more meaningful projects.

Mr. Bert Cecconi asked for elections to be moved to November of even-numbered years to increase turnout and eliminate election administration costs to the City. He suggested a move to paper ballots.

Ms. Alyssa Pope noted her affiliation with MOVE San Antonio. She requested an amendment to move elections to November of odd-numbered years to increase young voter turnout.

Chair Webster thanked the attendees for their participation. Dr. Romero also thanked the participants and highlighted the attendance of the university students.

3. Discussion on possible charter amendments and resident input

No new items were discussed.

4. Discussion of future meetings, including subcommittees

Mr. John Peterek gave a brief overview of the future timeline for the Commission.

Chair Webster stated that Mr. Gilbert would lead the Planning Subcommittee, Mr. Art Hall would lead the Ethics Subcommittee, Mr. Frank Garcia would lead the Housing Bond Subcommittee, and Mr. Frank Garza and Dr. Romero would lead the Legal Subcommittee. He added that there may be additional issues added.

Mr. Art Hall noted that he was waiting on the Ethics Review Board to provide their recommendations. Chair Webster asked if there was a timeline for receiving those recommendations. Ms. Camila Kunau replied that the Board would be discussing their recommendations on the 20th.

Councilmember Gallagher thanked the participants for their suggestions. He noted concerns with the timeline for the Charter amendments in order to be thorough. Chair Webster stated that the timeline would be examined as part of the review process.

Chair Webster recognized Councilmember Gallagher for his service.

5. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Webster, Chair

Lina Rodriguez, Office of the City Clerk