

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2016
CITY HALL MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM
4:00 PM

Members Present:	Mayor Ivy R. Taylor; Sharon De La Garza, <i>Human Resources Expert</i> ; Frank M. Garcia, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Juan Garcia, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Deborah Gray Marino, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Patricia Y. Rodriguez Oliver, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Dr. Francine S. Romero, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Art A. Hall, <i>Former Elected Official</i>
Members Absent:	Jeff Webster, <i>Chair</i> ; Margaret Anaglia, <i>Former City Employee</i> ; Francisco J. Garza, <i>Municipal Law Expert</i> ; John Gilbert, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Richard Perez, <i>Community Representative</i>
Others Present:	Councilmember Roberto Treviño, <i>District 1</i> ; Councilmember Mike Gallagher, <i>District 10</i> ; Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Andy Segovia, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Kevin Barthold, <i>City Auditor</i> ; Camila Kunau, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Tina Flores, <i>Compliance Auditor</i> ; Walter Ague, <i>Mayor's Office</i> ; Lina Rodriguez, <i>Executive Assistant to the City Clerk</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Assistant to the City Manager</i> ; Patrick Steck, <i>Special Projects Manager</i> ; Jed Maebius, <i>Council Aide – District 1</i> ; Rob Killen, <i>Citizen</i> ; Patrick Von Dohlen, <i>Citizen</i> ; John Butchkowski, Jr., <i>Citizen</i> ; Marian Stanko, <i>Citizen</i>

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order.

1. Information concerning the background and purpose of the Charter Commission

Mayor Taylor greeted and thanked all members for their service on the Commission. She announced that said meeting would be informational in nature and that no action would be taken. She also announced that she had appointed Jeff Webster as the Chair for the Charter Review Commission. She mentioned issues that were addressed during the 2015 Commission such as lengthening or staggering terms of office for councilmembers. She also reiterated that the Charter Review Commission was designed to be a standing body that would consider many issues and that conversation on these issues would continue throughout the years.

City Attorney Segovia provided background on the purpose of the Charter Review Commission and also provided information on the issues covered during the 2015 Commission. He explained that the City Charter is similar to the U.S. Constitution but differs in the fact that it can be amended much easier. He also explained that the City Charter was developed in 1951 and since then, the Charter has been amended

ten times. Mr. Segovia then discussed the 2015 Commission and the tasks they were charged with reviewing, such as revising several provisions that conflicted with current state law, revising outdated provisions that did not reflect current governmental practices and other matters. He stated that the City Council approved four propositions to be placed on the May 2015 Election Ballot. Those propositions included issues concerning council compensation and addressing the process for mayoral vacancies. He also informed the current Commission that all four propositions recommended by the 2015 Commission did pass during the May 2015 Election.

2. Timeline and process, including roles and responsibilities

Mayor Taylor briefly noted that members would be responsible for attending the monthly Charter Commission Meetings as well as several public hearings or citizen input sessions as they become necessary throughout the review process.

Mr. Segovia informed the Commission that a formal charge for the Commission would be forthcoming via the passage of an ordinance by the City Council in early 2017. He stated that the Commission would be responsible for meeting and developing an appropriate calendar, as well as, establishing committees to look at the various issues within the formal charge. Mr. Segovia informed the Commission that their final recommendation would be presented to the full City Council in June or July of 2017 should the City Council decide to call a November Special Election.

Mr. Segovia also informed the Commission that a minimum of three public input sessions would be required to be held on the formal charge before the final recommendation is brought before City Council. He also reiterated that the City Attorney's Office would be available to help with any research or questions the Commission might have.

Mayor Taylor opened the discussion to former members of the 2015 Commission to provide any insight to those new to the Commission.

Councilmember Gallagher stated that in addition to the Council Consideration Requests that pertain to the Charter, he would like continued discussion about lengthening or staggering council terms. Said issue was discussed at length during the 2015 Charter Commission. Mayor Taylor expressed her agreement of Councilmember Gallagher's statements.

3. Discussion on Council Consideration Requests

Councilmember Treviño expressed his support for the further discussion of the two Council Consideration Requests he submitted to be reviewed by the Charter Review Commission. He expressed his willingness to help in anyway so the Commission may make an informed decision.

Mayor Taylor also stated that should members of the Commission desire to read the minutes of the Governance Council Committee relating to the Council Consideration Requests, said minutes could be provided.

Mr. Segovia stated that all final recommendations brought forth to the City Council could be accepted, rejected, or altered in anyway the Council sees fit. However, he did reiterate that Council rarely alters final recommendations from the Commission.

Mrs. Sculley stated that the City Manager's Office would be in charge of agendas, meeting logistics, and providing legislative updates to the Commission. She introduced John Peterek as a point of contact for her office.

Mayor Taylor urged the Commission to familiarize themselves with the City Charter and the Council Consideration Requests provided to them.

4. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Webster, Chair

Lina Rodriguez, Office of the City Clerk