

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018 at 10:00 AM
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING, B ROOM**

Members Present:	Bonnie Prosser Elder, <i>Chair</i> ; Drew Galloway, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Dr. Tom Brereton, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Don Gonzales, <i>Municipal Finance Expert</i> ; Marc Druck, <i>Former City Employee</i> ; Frank Garza, <i>Municipal Law Expert</i> ; Dr. Charles Cotrell, <i>Human Resources Management Expert</i> ; Dr. Henry Flores, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Dr. Gloria Rodriguez, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Phyllis Ingram, <i>Community Representative</i> ; Margaret Wilson-Anaglia, <i>Former City Employee</i> ; Bonnie Conner, <i>Former Elected Official</i> ; Gyna Juarez, <i>Alternate Community Representative</i>
Members Absent:	Patti Radle, <i>Former Elected Official</i>
Others Present:	Andy Segovia, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Michael Shannon, <i>Director of Development Services</i> ; Ed Guzman, <i>Deputy City Attorney</i> ; Camila Kunau, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Assistant to the City Manager</i> ; Caitlin Krobot, <i>Special Projects Manager</i> ; Cecily Hope Pretty, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Bonnie Prosser Elder called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the Minutes from the Charter Review Commission Meeting of August 14, 2017 and the Charter Review Commission Meeting of April 13, 2018

Commissioner Phyllis Ingram moved to approve the minutes of the Charter Revision Commission meetings of August 14, 2017 and April 13, 2018. Commissioner Margaret Anaglia-Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Commissioners Don Gonzales and Marc Druck entered at this time.

Items 2 and 3 were addressed jointly.

2. Discussion of the Charter Review Commission Subcommittees' Progress and Recommendations

3. Discussion of Possible Charter Amendments

Chairwoman Prosser Elder asked the Chairs of each Subcommittee to present on their progress.

Commissioner Ingram stated that the Development Subcommittee had held meetings and received information from staff but was not yet prepared to make recommendations. She noted that there were a number of questions outstanding regarding extraterritorial jurisdiction and the Subcommittee would continue to meet.

Commissioner Dr. Charles Cotrell stated that the Ethics Subcommittee was primarily focused on the composition and selection of the Ethics Review Board (ERB), the scope and authority of the ERB, and the appointment of an independent Ethics Auditor. He noted that the Subcommittee had met twice and held discussions with several ethics experts and staff to consider recommendations and information. He highlighted Commissioner Dr. Tom Brereton's examination of previous ethics recommendations and citizen input. He stated that the Subcommittee was currently in favor of independent structures and would examine ways to formalize them in a recommendation. He noted the importance of gathering additional citizen feedback and stated that the Subcommittee would continue to meet.

Commissioner Don Gonzales stated that the Finance Subcommittee had primarily discussed the legal limits of a Charter amendment to address the need for affordable housing. He noted that they had received input from local attorneys, staff, and affordable housing advocates to provide background and guidance. He stated that a report from the Mayor's Housing Policy Task Force was forthcoming and would provide valuable information to the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Dr. Henry Flores entered at this time.

Commissioner Gonzales expressed the importance of designing a Charter amendment that primarily benefitted those in need of affordable housing rather than focusing on the development community. He noted that the language would need to be broad enough to be effective but precise enough that it would not be open to interpretation outside of its intention to provide aid. He thanked staff for their presentations to the Subcommittee and stated that they would continue to meet before providing a recommendation.

Commissioner Frank Garza stated that the Governance Subcommittee planned to recommend a Charter Amendment to change City Council term limits from four, 2-year terms to two, 4-year terms. He noted that the Subcommittee had not yet examined changing the requirements for recall petitions. He stated that the Subcommittee chose not to examine the details of moving municipal elections from May to November because the legislation that allowed it had expired. He recommended that the power to do so be pursued in a future legislative agenda. He noted that the Subcommittee discussed staggered terms of service for Councilmembers but did not support it within the current service structure. He stated that the Subcommittee felt no action was needed to address residency requirements because requirements had already been enhanced by Council action the year prior.

Commissioner Wilson-Anaglia stated that the Public Outreach Subcommittee was focused on the importance of public input to the Charter Review process. She noted that the Subcommittee was working to provide materials in English and Spanish and outreach efforts would be captured in print, online, on television, and through personal interactions. She stated that they were engaging local groups within the community to increase awareness of the Commission's efforts and Public Hearings. She noted that if additional Public Hearings were desired by the Commission, they should be scheduled soon and in locations with free parking and access to public transit.

Commissioner Dr. Gloria Rodriguez suggested the use of posters and flyers in common gathering areas around the city.

Commissioner Druck suggested livestreaming Commission meetings and soliciting citizen comments on same.

Commissioner Gonzales asked if Subcommittees should prepare to present during Public Hearings. Chairwoman Prosser Elder replied that she would work with City staff and leadership to determine expectations.

Chairwoman Prosser Elder thanked Commissioners for their work to date.

No action was required for Items 2 and 3.

Following discussion, Commissioners agreed to schedule full Commission meetings on May 24th and May 31st before opening each Public Hearing.


At this time, Dr. Cotrell congratulated Dr. Flores on his retirement and recognition as Professor Emeritus from St. Mary's University. All in attendance applauded Dr. Flores.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Chairwoman Prosser Elder adjourned the meeting at 10:51 am.

Respectfully Submitted,


Cecily Hope Pretty, Office of the City Clerk


Bonnie Prosser Elder, Chair