



**Charter Review Commission
Meeting Minutes
Council Chambers, City Hall
Tuesday, April 1, 2014**

Commission Members Present:

Rafael Anchia
Jan Hart Black
Liz Cedillo- Pereira
Robert Chereck
Levi Davis, First Vice Chair
Eva Elvove
Lois Finkelman, Second Vice Chair
Michael Northrup
Tom Perkins
Paul Rich
Bob Stimson
Mary Suhm
Alan Walne
Max Wells

Staff Members Present:

Anna Holmes
Tricia Horatio
Parris Long
Barbara McAninch
Rosa Rios
John Rogers
Elizabeth Zornes

Commission Members Absent:

Jeanne Phillips, Diane Ragsdale

5:40 PM Meeting called to order by Rafael Anchia

A quorum was present.

Welcome and Work Plan

Presenter(s): Rafael Anchia

Discussion Item: Chair Anchia gave recap of the community meeting held March 27, 2014 where the Commission received comments from the public. Chair Anchia reiterated the April 8, 2014 due date for all proposals. The topic for discussion at the April 8, 2014 meeting will be redistricting with testimony from a representative of the Greater Dallas Asian American Chamber of Commerce. The proposals submitted at the April 8, 2014 meeting will be discussed at the April 15, 2014 meeting and the commission will vote on the recommendations to present at the community meeting scheduled for April 22, 2014. The final vote on recommendations to submit to City Council will take place April 29, 2014.

Approval of Minutes of March 25, 2014 meeting

Action Taken/Item for Consideration: Commissioner Suhm made a motion to approve the Minutes from the meeting held on March 25, 2014. Motion Seconded by Commissioner Finkelman.

Motion passed unanimously

Briefing on Home Rule Cities and City Charter

Presenter(s): Warren Ernst

Discussion Item: City Attorney Ernst briefed the Commission on the role of home rule cities and the purpose of the city charter.



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Civil Service Panel

Presenter(s): Patricia Marsolais, Michael Pottorff, Anita Childress

Discussion Item: Patricia Marsolais briefed the Commission on the history and functions of the Civil Service Board. Director Marsolais requests that the Civil Service director and department remain under direct report of the City Council appointed Civil Service Board. Director Marsolais would support the recommended technical changes to Chapter XVI §4(b) (1) and §11(b) regarding seven day notice practice and City Manager requested hearings.

Discussion Item: Michael Pottorff, Chairman of the Meet and Confer Team, opposes any change that would move the Civil Service Board under direct report to the Office of City Manager. The Meet and Confer team also opposes any change that would make Fire and Police personnel 'At Will' employees.

Discussion Item: Anita Childress, Chair of the Civil Service Board, explained the quasi-judicial process of the Civil Service Board. Chair Childress opposes any change to the charter that would place the Director under the City Manager's office. Chair Childress supports amending the charter to require that ALJ personnel have a background in practicing law.

Request for information: Commissioner Rich requested a comparison of the Civil Service Boards of Austin, Houston, San Antonio and Dallas.

Vote on proposed Amendments to Chapter III §11

Action Taken/Item for Consideration: Commissioner Finkelman made a motion to approve proposed amendments to Chapter III §11 to clarify when the mayor is absent, seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Motion passed unanimously

Action Taken/Item for Consideration: Commissioner Northrup made a motion to reconsider the vote on the motion to approve proposed amendments to Chapter III §11 to specify the exact language of the proposed amendment, seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Motion passed unanimously

Vote on Proposed Amendments to Chapter III §17(c)

Action Taken/Item for Consideration: Commissioner Stimson made a motion to delete Chapter III §(c) which prohibits employees from running for office. This brings the charter into compliance with state law. Motion seconded by Commissioner Chereck.

Motion passed unanimously



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Vote on Proposed Amendments to Various Chapters and Sections Concerned with Publication Requirements

Discussion Item: The vote on proposed amendments concerned with publication requirements was postponed for further review.

Vote on Proposed Amendments to Chapter XXII §11

Discussion Item: The vote on proposed amendments to Chapter XXII §11 was postponed to reconcile language with Chapter 12A of the City Code and Section 171.002 of the Local Government Code. Chair requests that staff draft language stating that DART board members have the same prohibitions as other board and commissioner members.

Vote on proposed Amendments to Chapter III §11

Action Taken/Item for Consideration: Commissioner Wells made a motion to approve the amended gender neutral amendments to Chapter III §11 to clarify when the mayor and mayor pro tem are absent. Commissioner Davis seconded.

Motion passed unanimously

Vote on Proposed Amendments to Chapter XXIV §§ 13 and 17(a)

Discussion Item: No motion was made to approve suggested amendments to Chapter XXIV §13 regarding the nomination process of boards and commissions. No motion was made to approve Chapter XXIV §17(a) with respect to how many boards and commissions a citizen may serve on. Chair requested that language be drafted by staff concerning Chapter XXIV §17 related to forfeiture of board membership due to absences.

Request for information: Explore possibility of conflict of interest with TIF board members in respect to Chapter XXII § 11(a) and the City Code.

Request for information: Research DART Board term limits.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22

Chair

Commission Administrator