



**Charter Review Commission
Meeting Minutes
Council Chambers, City Hall
Tuesday, April 15, 2014**

Commission Members Present:

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

Staff Members Present:

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

Commission Members Absent:

Liz Cedillo- Pereira, Jeanne Phillips

5:37 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 a brief recap of the meeting held April 8, 2014, where the Commission had a redistricting work session. Consensus was reached on when the redistricting process will start, how applications will be solicited, and who will screen and review applications. The Commission will resume discussion relating to redistricting. April 22, 2014 is the revised date to vote on proposed amendments. The fifth community will be held on April 29, 2014. The final vote on proposed amendments will take place on May 6, 2014.

Approval of Minutes of April, 5 2014 and April 8, 2014 meetings

Action Taken/Item for Consideration: Chair Anchia made a motion to approve the Minutes from the meetings held on April 5, 2014, and April 8, 2014. Motion seconded by Commissioner Northrup.

Motion passed unanimously

Citizen Testimony on Redistricting

Presenter(s): Marvin Crenshaw

Discussion Item: Mr. Crenshaw gave comment on the 2011 redistricting process. Mr. Crenshaw advocates single member districts for an independent redistricting commission.



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Consideration of amendments to Chapter IV §12, Chapter V §1, Chapter XVIII §s 11, 12, 13 and 14 (Petitions)

Presenter(s): Chris Bowers

Discussion item(s): Assistant City Attorney Bowers presented proposed amendments to Chapter IV §12, Chapter V §1, Chapter XVIII §s 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the Charter. The suggested amendments include proposals to:

- Align the charter to comply with the Texas Election Code
- Extend the amount of time from 30 days to 60 days for the City Secretary to review a petition
- Include language in the charter to address the staffing levels of the Office of the City Secretary
- Provide the City Council the power to amend or repeal an ordinance adopted by petition

Action Taken/Item for Consideration: Commissioner Davis moved to approve Chapter V § 1 Subsection (3) and Chapter XVIII § 11 allowing 60 days for the City Secretary to review petitions. Motion Seconded by Commissioner Finkelman.

Motion passed unanimously

Action Taken/Item for Consideration: Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve Chapter XXII § 1, clarifying publication of an ordinance or resolution does not execute the ordinance or resolution as a contract unless expressly provided for. Motion Seconded by Commissioner Northrup.

Motion passed unanimously

Continuation of Redistricting Work Session; Worksheet and Consideration of proposed amendments

Presenter(s): Barbara McAninch

Discussion Item: Assistant City Attorney McAninch briefed the Commission on the current redistricting process and presented a map demonstrating 2% census tracts representing populations of 1,711 in Dallas council districts.

Discussion Item: Continuation of redistricting worksheet from April 08, 2014 meeting. Consensus was reached on the following issues:

- Process for final approval of the redistricting plan
- Commission process
- Staffing and support for the redistricting commission
- Training for the commission
- Methods to increase transparency and independence
- Guidelines to be used by the commission
- Measures for disqualification to serve on the redistricting commission



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Action Taken/Item for Consideration: Commissioner Davis made a motion to allow for a 15 member, council appointed, redistricting commission with further discussion on four additional members and their method of selection. Commissioner Stimson seconded.

No Vote Taken

Request for Information: Commissioner Davis requested that staff research the federal threshold for caps on district map population modifications.

Request for Information: Commissioner Rich requested data on locations in the community where redistricting public meetings were held and the number of attendees at each location.

Discussion Item: The next commission meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 21, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at Dallas City Hall, Council Chambers.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10

Chair

Commission Administrator