

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**Wednesday, October 14, 2015 – 8:00 a.m.**  
**6th Floor Conference Room**  
**Council Office Building**

**Commission Members Present:**

Paul Bessel, Chair  
Sharon Freeman, Vice-Chair  
  
Wendy Cohen  
Joshua Lipsky  
Timothy Lighter  
Randy McDonald  
Angela Rey  
Aryeh Shudofsky

**Staff:**

Ed Lattner, Office of the County Attorney  
Bonnie Kirkland, Office of the County Executive  
Marie Jean-Paul, County Council  
Amanda Mihill, County Council  
Justina Ferber, County Council  
Josh Hamlin, County Council

**Commission Members Absent:**

Jennifer Hunt  
Lawrence Lauer  
Edward S. Wisneski

**Guests:**

Council President George Leventhal  
Barbara Braswell

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Commission Chair Paul Bessel called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and asked everyone to give a brief introduction.

**I. Administrative matters**

Mr. Bessel asked if there were any objections to the agenda. Ms. Rey expressed objections, which were discussed. The agenda was then adopted without other objection.

The minutes for the September 9, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

**II. Discussion with County Council President George L. Leventhal**

Mr. Bessel indicated that County Council President George L. Leventhal would be attending the meeting, and that the Commission would begin its agenda, but would table whatever matter is being discussed at his arrival until after he completes speaking with the Commission.

**III. Motions**

- 1. Motion:** Mr. Bessel made the following motion:

The CRC's first priority will be to complete action as quickly as possible on the issue of filling any vacancies in the offices of County Executive and County Council Member. Other issues can be discussed and handled as the CRC sees fit, so long as the first priority issue is not delayed in any way.

After discussion, the motion passed, 6-2 (Mr. Bessel, Ms. Freeman, Ms. Cohen, Mr. Lipsky, Mr. Lighter, and Mr. McDonald in favor; Ms. Rey and Mr. Shudofsky opposed)

**2. Motion:** Mr. Bessel made the following motion:

The CRC will attempt to schedule a public hearing on its proposed language for the Charter amendment on filling County Executive and County Council vacancies with elections (when there is more than 1 year left in those terms) during January 2016, and then vote on the final CRC proposal on this issue in February 2016.

The motion was discussed. Council President Leventhal arrived at 8:30, and the motion was tabled while Mr. Leventhal addressed the Commission.

After Mr. Leventhal's departure, the motion was discussed further and amended to read as follows:

The CRC will attempt to schedule a public hearing to be held in January 2016 on the subject and proposed language of a Charter amendment on filling a County Executive vacancy with an election, and any other issues that that members of the public may raise, and will then vote on the final CRC proposal on this issue in February 2016.

The motion, as amended, passed 8-0.

**3. Motion:** Mr. Bessel made the following motion:

The CRC adopts special rules of order (special rules of order are those that a group adopts to emphasize or modify Robert's Rules of Order for the particular needs of the group) as listed on the following pages [special rules were attached to the agenda].

The motion was discussed and passed 6-1 (Mr. Bessel, Ms. Freeman, Ms. Cohen, Mr. Lipsky, Mr. McDonald, and Mr. Shudofsky in favor; Ms. Rey opposed).

**IV. Administrative Items**

Commission member were reminded that, because the second Wednesday in November falls on the Veterans' Day holiday, the next Charter Review Commission meeting is on November 18. The meeting adjourned at 9:26 a.m.