

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
Wednesday, March 9, 2016 – 8:00 a.m.
6th Floor Conference Room
Council Office Building

Commission Members Present:

Paul Bessel, Chair
Wendy Cohen
Larry Lauer
Timothy Lighter
Joshua Lipsky
Randy McDonald
Aryeh Shudofsky
Ed Wisneski

Staff:

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

Guests:

Barbara Braswell
Mike Durso
Lynne Harris
Christopher Lloyd
Jill Ortman-Fouse
Martha Schaett
Lisa Seigel
Rebecca Smondrowski
Dale Tibbitts
Jonelle Williams

Commission Members Absent:

Sharon Freeman
Jennifer Hunt
Angela Rey

Commission Chair Paul Bessel called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

I. Administrative matters

A motion was made, and carried (7-1) to hear comments from members of the public wishing to address the Commission at the beginning of the meeting. The commission then heard from Chris Lloyd of the Montgomery County Educators Association, County resident Lisa Seigel, and Mike Durso of the Montgomery County Board of Education. All three speakers spoke on the matter of the nine-vote requirement to exceed the limit on property tax revenues in Section 305 of the Charter.

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The minutes for the February 10, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.

II. Review of the draft 2016 Commission Report:

- A motion was made, and carried, 8-0, to limit the Commission's recommendation for Charter amendment in the Commission's 2016 report to amendment of Section 205 to

provide for the filling of a vacancy in the office of County Executive by special election.

- A motion was made, and failed, 1-7, to approve the draft report in its current form.
- A motion was made, and failed, 1-7, to amend the draft report to include more extensive descriptions of possible areas of future study by the Commission.
- A motion was made, and carried, 6-2, to amend the draft report to limit discussion of possible areas of future study to a bulleted list.

III. Discussion of possible next items for Commission study.

The Commission discussed possible areas of for future study, and tentatively decided to prioritize the areas of budget and finance, particularly as they pertain to Section 305 of the Charter.

IV. Next meeting

The next Charter Review Commission is scheduled for April 13, 2016 at 8:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 a.m.