

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
Wednesday, April 19, 2017 – 8:00 a.m.
5th Floor Conference Room
Council Office Building

Commission Members Present:

Paul Bessel, Chair
Wendy Cohen
Sharon Freeman
Randy McDonald
Aryeh Shudofsky
Jonelle Williams
Ed Wisneski

Staff:

Ed Lattner, Office of the County Attorney
Marie Jean-Paul, County Council
Josh Hamlin, County Council

Guest:

Barbara Braswell

Commission Members Absent:

Larry Lauer
Timothy Lighter
Joshua Lipsky
Angela Rey

Commission Chair Paul M. Bessel called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

I. Administrative items:

- The agenda was adopted without objection.
- The minutes for the March 8, 2017 meeting were approved without objection.

II. Comments by any members of the public about anything within the jurisdiction of the CRC:

None.

III. Discussion on possible amendments to the manner in which members of the Redistricting Commission are selected under Section 104, Redistricting Procedure:

Commissioners discussed whether members of the Redistricting Commission should continue to be chosen in the manner provided in Section 104, which results in four members from each political party that polled at least 15 percent in the last general election, chosen from lists supplied by each party's central committee, plus one member selected by the Council. The selection procedures for other Maryland counties were summarized, and several alternative suggestions were discussed. The Commission will revisit and potentially decide on a tentative recommendation at its May 10 meeting.

IV. Reports from Research Groups:

- a) **Financial**
- b) **Government Structure**
- c) **Personnel**

None.

V. Other business:

Commissioners discussed the possibility of modifying the composition of the Council, which currently consists of one member each from five Council districts, plus four members elected at-large, as provided in Sections 102 and 103. The possibility of increasing the number of districts, or the number of members elected from each district, with a corresponding decrease in the number of at-large members was discussed. The Commission will revisit this issue at its May 10 meeting.

VI. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 a.m.