

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
Wednesday, December 13, 2017 – 8:00 a.m.
6th Floor Conference Room
Council Office Building

Commission Members Present:

Paul Bessel, Chair
Greg Decker
Sharon Freeman
Larry Lauer
Timothy Lighter
Joshua Lipsky
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

Guests:

Barbara Braswell
Mary Lanigan, League of Women Voters of
Montgomery County

Commission Members Absent:

Wendy Cohen

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

I. Administrative items:

- The agenda was adopted without objection.
- The minutes for the November 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 and vote on possible proposed amendment to Charter provisions for the s election of the Redistricting Commission.

Commissioners discussed a potential recommendation to amend Section 104 of the Charter, providing for the appointment of a Redistricting Commission every 10 years to establish boundaries for Council districts. The purpose of the proposal is to provide for a neutral County Redistricting Commission, eliminating the use of party affiliation in the selection of members.

The Commission decided to continue discussion and vote on a recommendation at the January meeting.

IV. Discussion and vote on possible proposed amendment to Charter provisions governing the structure of the County Council.

Commissioners discussed three proposals related to the district/at-large structure of the County Council as established in Sections 102 and 103 of the Charter. The proposals were:

- recommend amendment to restructure the County Council to include 7 district and 2 at-large seats;
- recommend amendment to restructure the County Council to include 9 district seats and no at-large seats: and
- recommend no change to the current Council structure of 5 district and 4 at-large seats.

The Commission decided to continue discussion and vote on a recommendation at the January meeting.

V. Reports from Research Groups:

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

None.

VI. Other business:

The CRC voted to permit any member wishing to submit a minority report on any issue to do so and have their minority report included in the CRC 2018 report to the Council.

VII. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 a.m.