

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**Wednesday, September 20, 2017 – 8:00 a.m.**  
**6th Floor Conference Room**  
**Council Office Building**

**Commission Members Present:**

Paul Bessel, Chair  
Wendy Cohen  
Sharon Freeman  
Larry Lauer  
Timothy Lighter  
Aryeh Shudofsky  
Jonelle Williams  
Ed Wisneski

**Staff:**

Jacob Sesker, Council Staff  
Jelani Newton, Office of Management & Budget  
Karen Hawkins, Department of Finance  
Ed Lattner, Office of the County Attorney  
Marie Jean-Paul, County Council  
Josh Hamlin, County Council

**Commission Members Absent:**

Randy McDonald  
Joshua Lipsky

**Guest:**

Barbara Braswell  
Mark Pierzchala, Rockville City Council  
Mary Lanigan, League of Women Voters of  
Montgomery County

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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 July 12, 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 of budget issues raised in July 12 meeting:**

At the July 12 meeting, Commissioners discussed proposals for amendments to Charter Sections 302, 307, and 308, and identified the following issues for further consideration at the September meeting:

- (1) consideration of public-private partnerships in capital improvement projects;
- (2) budget transfer process; and
- (3) current use of any budget surplus.

Commissioners heard from Jacob Sesker, Senior Legislative Analyst for the County Council, Jelani Newton, Deputy Director/Operating Budget Coordinator of the Office of Management and Budget and Karen Hawkins, Chief Operating Officer of the Department of Finance. Staff answered questions of the Commissioners related to all three issues, and

the Commission did not vote to pursue further study of potential Charter amendments in these areas.

**IV. Discussion/Planning for October 18 Public Hearing**

The Chair directed staff to secure use of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Council Hearing Room for the public hearing, in anticipation of a large turnout, and to arrange for the audio recording of the public hearing.

**V. Reports from Research Groups:**

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

None.

**VI. Other business:**

The Chair requested, without objection, that consideration of a Charter amendment providing for the direct election of the Council President to a four-year term be added to the agenda for the November 8 meeting.

**VII. Adjourn.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.