

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

Commission Members Present:

Paul Bessel, Chair
Wendy Cohen
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
Justina Ferber
Josh Hamlin, County Council

Guest:

Barbara Braswell

Commission Members Absent:

Angela Rey

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 9, 2016 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 decisions on proposed CRC workplan:

The Commission discussed the proposed workplan provided in the agenda. The proposed items for discussion and vote for the March and April 2018 meetings, as reflected below. The Commission discussed the possibility of making a recommendation on Council composition, including consideration of a change to all district members, and tentatively decided to move these items to an earlier date than that reflected on the proposed plan. The possibility of an amendment to permit voting by mail was also discussed. The Commission decided to deprioritize this issue due to the fact that it would require changes to the State Constitution and State law prior to becoming a County Charter issue. The Chair may make some suggested revisions for consideration at the March meeting.

March 8, 2017: finish discussion and vote on full-time vs. part-time Council;

- April 12, 2017:** finish discussion and vote on 9 vote requirement for Council to increase property taxes over CPI;
- May 10, 2017:** Council redistricting procedures;
- June 7, 2017:** procedural matters related to capital improvements, supplementary appropriations, and special appropriations, as provided in Charter Sections 302, 307, and 308, respectively;
- July 12, 2017:** issues related to transfers of funds, surplus, and indebtedness, as provided in Charter Section 309,310, and 312, respectively;
- August 9, 2017:** the collective bargaining provisions in Charter sections 510, 510A, and 511;
- September 13, 2017:**the possibility of new section providing for open meetings for all County boards, committees, and commissions;
- October 11, 2017:** Council composition, change to all district members, staggered terms;
- November 8, 2017:** discussion and decisions on any unfinished or additional matters;
- December 13, 2017:** discussion and decisions on any unfinished or additional matters;
- January 10, 2018:** discussion and decisions on any unfinished or additional matters (*meeting may be cancelled*);
- February 14, 2018:** work on 2018 CRC report;
- March 14, 2018:** discussion of 2018 CRC report; and
- April 11, 2018:** final approval of 2018 CRC report.

IV. Reports from Research Groups:

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

None.

V. Other business:

None.

VI. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 a.m.