

May 25, 2017 Charter Review Summary Minutes

Present – Dick Kistemaker; Ron Campbell; Sue Grodek; Tom Hites; Jerry Hates; Fran Barrett; Carl Ethridge; Denise Folger

Absent – Ron Balbier

Also Present – Kevin Butler, Law Director

Approved the May 11, 2017 minutes

Discussion of “zoning measure” language in Charter, Art. 5, Sec. 10(b) Mandatory Referral to Electors. What does a zoning measure mean? Needs a clearer definition so as not to lump all zoning code changes in with rezoning of parcels. Kevin Butler discussed why we need clarity. The Building Commissioner will be present at the June 6 meeting to discuss.

Kevin Butler explained the process for the Commission’s final report, proposed charter changes and Council placing them on the November ballot.

The Commission tentatively decided that it would vote June 22 on final approved changes.

Vice-Chairman Mr. Kistemaker went through the running list of suggestions. The commission indicated the following items, thus far, will appear on the final list of proposed charter changes (subject to the June 22 vote):

- Election of council president
- Qualifications of councilmembers vis-à-vis other public offices
- Council Clerk appointment

All other items on the running list were again discussed. More concerted discussion was had on the issue of the possibility of a runoff election for the mayor’s race. The Commission ultimately decided not to put the following on the final list of charter change suggestions: number of votes required on all Council action; general vs. runoff election; qualifications for finance director; change in the term of office of councilmembers; excused absences from meetings; removal of councilmembers; number of councilmembers; abstentions influencing vote total; and cutoff of council leadership terms.

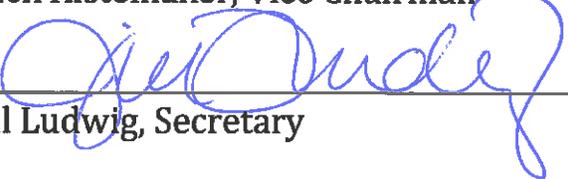
New item for review raised by Mr. Ethridge: Discussion of Art. 10(a), composition of Charter Review Commission. Suggestion was that no spouse, child, parent or sibling of the mayor or a councilmember may serve on the Charter Review Commission. Another suggestion was that commissioners not be permitted to serve more than two consecutive terms (but may be permitted to serve more than two terms). The Commission asked Mr. Butler to write up proposed language on this item for the next meeting.

The Commission decided to hold the next meeting on June 6 at 5:30 p.m. to accommodate more commissioners' schedules.

Meeting adjourned.



Dick Kistemaker, Vice Chairman



Jill Ludwig, Secretary

Running List of Open Issues

- Election of Council President – **Commission has tentatively resolved this issue**
- ~~Number of votes required on all Council action Art 11. Sec 5~~
- ~~Obligation Roll Call vote Art III Sec 8a~~
- Qualifications in General -issue of serving in other offices Art 3. Sec 2 – **Commission has tentatively resolved this issue**
- ~~Term of Office Art 3 Sec 1~~
- ~~What and who determines a justifiable excuse for missing a meeting – Art 3 Sec 3~~
- ~~Removal of Council Person Art 3 Sec 3~~
- ~~General verses Run-off election~~
- ~~Number of councilmembers~~
- ~~Abstentions influencing vote total~~
- ~~Cut-off of Council President term and the other elected positions, Planning Commission and Rec Board~~
- Council Clerk appointment – **Commission has tentatively resolved this issue**
- ~~Qualifications for finance director, Art. 5 Sec. 3~~
- Mandatory referral of zoning matters to electors, Art. 5 Sec. 10(b) – **K. Butler drafting suggested language for 6/6 meeting**
- Restrictions on Charter Review Commission membership and terms, Art. X-A – **K. Butler drafting language to comport with Commission's 5/25 vote**