

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021, 5 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING

MINUTES

PRESENT: Members Warren Avery, James Goldman, Kori Norsell, Garth Newberry, Malissa McKeith, Randolph Ben Clymer, Jr., Rafael “Frank” Ramirez, Pete Benavidez, Thanouthong “Brian” Saipramuk, Alia Rodriguez, Larry Burns, and Alternate Monrow A. Mabon

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Eva Arseo and Elliot Min

Interim City Clerk Arseo convened the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

The staff and Committee members present introduced themselves.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Jason Hunter spoke regarding the scope of the Charter Review Committee and an independent elected Inspector General position.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Following discussion, Member McKeith moved and Member Avery seconded nomination of Randolph Ben Clymer, Jr., for Chair. There were no further nominations. The motion carried with Member Clymer abstaining.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Following discussion, Member Avery moved and Member Clymer seconded nomination of Malissa McKeith for Vice-Chair. There were no further nominations. The motion carried with Member McKeith abstaining.

Chair Clymer accepted the appointment as Chair and presided.

SELECTION OF REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Avery and seconded by Member Benavidez to conduct regular meetings of the Charter Review Committee on the third Wednesdays of the month at 5 p.m. as outlined in the written staff report. Motion carried unanimously.

CHARTER REVIEW PROCESS

Interim City Clerk Arseo provided an overview of the Charter Review process conducted by the 2019/2020 Charter Review Committee, Committee's scope, timeline, and recommendations as outlined in the written staff report. The Committee discussed the Mayor's vote, an inspector general position, and elected officials and City staff interviews by the Committee.

Chair Clymer left the meeting at this time. Vice Chair McKeith presided over the meeting.

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Goldman and seconded by Member Avery to request staff to provide the Committee the pleadings and court rulings of the Bailey v. City of Riverside and Ben Clymer, Jr. v. City of Riverside cases. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion continued regarding an inspector general position and citizen complaints.

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Goldman and seconded by Member Benavidez requesting staff to provide a compilation of all citizen complaints and outcomes for last three years. Motion carried unanimously.

Interim City Clerk Arseo will provide the members a list of meeting dates of discussions by the last Charter Review Committee regarding the Mayor's vote and an annual audit report including the position of an inspector general, staff materials regarding research of a mayor voting in other cities, the first 1907 City Charter, a historical cultural perspective of 1907, information on the process for filing a complaint and complaints against employees and Charter officers.

CHARGE AND SCOPE/BROWN ACT/CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT

Deputy City Attorney Min briefed the Committee on their charge and scope, the Brown Act open meeting requirements, the City's Sunshine Ordinance, and the City's Code of Ethics and Conduct.

Vice Chair McKeith requested members volunteer to form a subcommittee to collect information regarding an Inspector General position. Members Saipramuk, Rodriguez, Avery, and Norsell volunteered.

Vice Chair McKeith requested members volunteer to form a subcommittee to collect information regarding the Mayor's vote. Members Goldman and Benavidez volunteered.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION AS REQUESTED BY CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Vice-Chair McKeith requested the Committee's scope be discussed at the next meeting and requested a City representative to explain the complaint process.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

EVA ARSEO
Interim City Clerk