



**Charter Review Commission  
Minutes  
WebEx Board Meeting  
January 19, 2021 7:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Chair Fred Evans, and members John Becker, David Gottesman, Harold Hodges, Jack Kelly, Robert Kurnick, Anita Powell, Judy Rudolph, Izola Shaw, Marissa Valeri and Robert Wright. Krishna Kumar was absent.

**Staff Present:** Acting City Attorney Cynthia Walters, Acting Deputy City Clerk Jacqueline Mobley. City Manager Management Assistant Melissa Wiak was absent.

**Welcome**

Acting Deputy City Clerk Jacqueline Mobley opened the meeting via WebEx at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Evans welcomed all those present.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** to approve the revised minutes from the January 5, 2021 Charter Review Commission meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Wright, seconded by Commissioner Rudolph and approved unanimously.

**I. Review of Scope and Work Assignments of Teams**

Chair Evans recognized Commissioners Rudolph, Shaw and Wright for their work in finalizing the group topics. Work groups include: Mayor and Council, Election Process/Franchise Expansion, and Board of Supervisors of Elections. The three groups will consist of three, three, and four members respectively, as Commissioner Kurnick, as BSE liaison will serve ex-officio on all three groups.

Chair Evans indicated that during the workgroup kickoffs, Commissioner Wright will work with the Mayor and Council, Commissioner Shaw will work with the Election Process/Franchise Expansion, and Commissioner Rudolph will work with the Board of Supervisors of Elections workgroups. Commissioners in each workgroup will determine which member will be the group leader.

Commissioner Hodges suggested that “from all demographics” be added to the subgroup “Election Process/Franchise Expansion”, bullet point “o”. Commissioner Wright agreed with Commissioner Hodges’ suggestion, but asked that each subgroup determine what subtopics they would like added/removed.

Commissioner Hodges asked for clarification on subgroup “Election Process/Franchise Expansion”, bullet point “e” – resign to run provision. Acting City Attorney Walters provided clarification and indicated staff will provide information if any jurisdictions in Maryland have a “resign to run” provision.

Commissioner Wright asked Acting City Attorney Walters to research whether the Maryland Code prevents the City of Rockville from putting a “resign to run” provision in its charter or code.

## **II. Discussion—Timeline from which Charter Review Commission Teams/workgroups should report on assignments**

Chair Evans stated this topic cannot be discussed until the teams are formed.

Commissioner Wright suggested that the Commission aim to submit their recommendations about the election-related topics revisions to Mayor and Council by the fall of 2021.

Commissioner Valeri recommended an emergency “Public Health Preparedness” initiative be added to the Charter for Mayor and Council consideration.

Commissioner Shaw indicated the Commission should allow ample time for the community to provide input regarding the suggested revisions made by the Commission.

## **III. Next Steps**

Chair Evans asked each commissioner to send him their preferences, ranking them one, two, and three, for which subgroup they would like to be on by close of business on January 20, 2021.

### **Future Meetings**

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

**Motion:** to adjourn.

Moved by Commissioner Rudolph, seconded by Commissioner Kelly and approved unanimously.