



**Charter Review Commission  
Minutes  
WebEx Board Meeting  
June 07, 2022  
7:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Chair Kevin Owen and Commissioners: Harold Hodges, Jack Kelly, Sally Kram, Robert Kurnick, Anita Neal Powell, Izola Shaw, Marissa Valeri, and Robert Wright. **Absent:** John Becker

**Staff Present:** Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations, Danny Winborne, Deputy City Clerk.

**I. Welcome**

Sara Taylor-Ferrell opened the meeting via WebEx at 7:08 p.m. Chair Owen welcomed all those present.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**a. Approval of Revised Minutes—May 17, 2022**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes from May 17, 2022, as amended

Moved by Commissioner Wright seconded by Commissioner Valeri and approved unanimously.

**b. Approval of Revised Minutes- May 31, 2022**

**Motion:** To table approval of the minutes from the May 31, 2022, meeting to add additional corrections.

Moved by Commissioner Wright seconded by Commissioner Kram and approved unanimously.

**III. Approval of Appendix Items.**

**a. Town Hall Record – Revised Appendix B (vote)**

**Motion:** To accept Commissioner Shaw’s and Commissioner Valeri’s order of appendix B.

Moved by Commissioner Valeri seconded by Commissioner Wright and approved unanimously.

**IV. Admission of Report Sections of Issues J through M:**

**a. Issue J – Increasing the number of members of the Board of**

**Supervisors of Elections**

- i. **Discussion:** Discussion took place among the commissioners.
- ii. **Vote:** Motion to table Issue J until the June 14, 2022, meeting, moved by Commissioner Valeri and seconded by Commissioner Wright.  
**Motion approved by 5 commissioners, 1 no vote, and 2 abstained.**

**b. Issue K – Lengthening the terms for members of the Board of Supervisors of Elections.**

- i. **Discussion:** Discussion took place among the commissioners.
- ii. **Vote:**
  - **Motion to** – Lengthening the terms for members of the Board of Supervisors of Elections moved by Commissioner Wright and seconded by commissioner Powell – **Motion approved unanimously.**
  - **Motion to** – Strike comments moved by Commissioner Valeri and seconded by Commissioner Kelley – **Motion amended** by Commissioner Wright and amendment accepted by Commissioner Valeri. **Motion approved with 7-1.**

**c. Issue L – The appointment process for the members of the Board of Supervisors of Elections.**

- i. **Discussion:** Discussion took place among the commissioners.
- ii. **Vote:**  
**Motion to** – To table Issue L until re-write or until next meeting, was moved by commissioner Valeri and seconded by Commissioner Kelley. **The motion was approved by all commissioners, with one abstention (Commissioner Kram).**

**d. Issue M – The required duties of the Board of Supervisors of Elections to include meeting with the Mayor and Council and participating in meetings with the Mayor and Council and timely responding to information requests.**

- i. **Discussion:** Discussion took place among the commissioners.
- ii. **Vote:**  
**Motion to** – Strike paragraph beginning with the interview was moved by Commissioner Wright and seconded by commissioner Kelley, and amended motion was offered by Commissioner Kram and seconded by commissioner Kelley and accepted by Commissioner Wright (the maker of the motion). **The motion was approved by all commissioners with two abstentions (Commissioner Valeri and commissioner Hodges).**

**V. Election Process/Franchise Expansion Working Group Report:**

a. **Presentation by Commissioner Shaw** Discussion took place among the commissioners.

b. **Issue G – Alternative Voting Systems**

i. **Discussion:** Discussion took place among the commissioners.

**Vote - Part 1 (Ranked Choice Voting):**

**Option 1** (Explore Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) for Rockville elections and if deemed appropriate then implement.): Commissioners Powell, Hodges, Valeri, Shaw, and Owen. Commissioner Shaw to draft the Majority Opinion.

**Option 2** (Not explore RCV and plan to retain the current election method.): Commissioners Wright, who will draft a Minority Opinion.

**None of the Above:** Commissioners Kelly and Kram. Commissioner Kram will write the Minority Opinion.

Commissioner Becker was not present to vote.

c. **Issue H – Translation of Election Information in Various Languages.**

i. **Discussion [15 Minutes]**

ii. **Vote:**

Part 2 ("None of the Above" ballot option): *SPLIT DECISION*

**Option 1** (Implement the "None of the above" (NOTA) ballot option.) Commissioners Powell, Valeri, Shaw, and Hodges. Commissioner Hodges and Valeri to write this decision.

**Option 2** (Do not implement the NOTA ballot option.) Commissioners Wright, Kram, Kelly, and Owen. Commissioner Owen to write this decision.

Commissioner Becker was not present to vote.

**Issue H: Translation of election information into various languages**

**Option 1** (Translate Rockville election information into the most frequently spoken languages among Limited English Proficient (LEP) communities.): Commissioners Powell, Valeri, Kelly, Hodges, Kram, Shaw, and Owen. Commissioner Valeri to take lead on drafting the majority opinion.

**Option 2** (Continue providing election information in English and Spanish.): Commissioners Wright, who will draft the minority opinion.

Commissioner Becker was not present to vote.

d. **Issue I – Alternative Methods of Advertising Elections.**

i. **Discussion [15 Minutes]**

ii. **Vote:**

Issue I: Alternative methods of advertising an election

**Motion: Option 1:** Commissioner Shaw moved to coordinate with multitenant residents to allow city representatives to have access to residents and candidates for the purpose of campaigning and publicizing elections. **The Motion passed unanimously.**

**Option 2** (Maintain the current charter and code language providing legal notice of elections.): Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Becker was not present to vote.

Commissioner Owen to draft the portion of the report regarding the legal "notice" portion of the report and Commissioner Shaw to draft the portion of the report regarding "publicity" of elections. The "Comment" portion shall reflect the initial analysis of the language of the resolution interpreting the word "advertising" as meaning publicity instead of the legal notice and explain the Commission's view that the publicizing of elections is the more impactful aspect of the topic than the pro forma legal notice. In addition, Commissioner Shaw will include a separate portion focusing on "Having the City coordinate with multi-tenant residences to allow City representatives and candidates for municipal office have access to residents for the purposes of campaigning and publicizing elections."

- e. **Issue N – Any additional provisions on topics raised during the vote by mail election, for example, ballot harvesting.**
  - i. **Discussion [15 Minutes]**
  - ii. **Vote – Due to the lateness in the hour, this item was tabled until the next meeting.**
  
- f. **Issue O – Provisions that may increase voter turnout.**
  - i. **Discussion [15 Minutes]**
  - ii. **Vote – Due to the lateness in the hour, this item was tabled until the next meeting.**
  
- g. **Issue P – Provisions in the election code for internal consistency with the Charter and vice-versa.**
  - i. **Discussion [15 Minutes]**
  - ii. **Vote – Due to the lateness in the hour, this item was tabled until the next meeting.**

**VI. Old and New Business - Due to the lateness in the hour, this item was tabled until the next meeting.**

**VII. Adjournment – Commissioner Hodges moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Valeri. The Motion passed unanimously at 11:51 P.M.**