



**Charter Review Commission  
Minutes  
WebEx Board Meeting  
May 25, 2021 7:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Chair Fred Evans, and members John Becker, David Gottesman, Harold Hodges, Jack Kelly, Sally Kram, Robert Kurnick, Kevin Owen, Anita Powell, Izola Shaw, Marissa Valeri, and Robert Wright were present.

**Staff Present:** Acting City Attorney Cynthia Walters, City Clerk Sara Ferrell, City Manager, Management Assistant Melissa Wiak were present

**I. Welcome—New Member**

City Clerk Sara Ferrell opened the meeting via WebEx at 7:02 p.m. Chair Evans welcomed all those present.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2021 Charter Review Commission meeting, as amended.

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

**III. Communications/Outreach –Michelle Whittaker RCV Maryland**

Ms. Michelle Whittaker provided a demonstration regarding rank choice voting as an option for the Commission to consider, should they decide to incorporate that in their report to the Mayor and Council.

**IV. Workgroup Reports**

Mayor and Council Working Group:

Commissioner Wright reported that each subgroup drafted their issue papers. The incomplete drafts were shared with the Commission for discussion and input.

Election Process/Franchise Expansion Working Group:

Commissioner Shaw reported that each subgroup is continuing to research and write their reports on the subtopics. They will share their findings with the Commission in the upcoming weeks.

Board of Supervisors of Elections (BSE) Working Group:

Commissioner Kelly stated two draft issue papers are available for commissioners to view. He indicated that the BSE is developing a list of interview questions and potential interviewees.

**V. Old/New Business**

Commissioner Wright expressed concern regarding the pace the Commission is operating in relation to meeting the December 7, 2021 timeline for “Section A”.

Acting City Attorney Walters provided notes regarding “Section B”, regarding which topics the City has the authority to address. Commissioner Valeri indicated that the topics in which the City has authority should be explicitly captured in the City’s Charter.

Chair Evans distributed a letter from Robert Kurnick, Chair of the Board of Supervisors of Elections (BSE) and ex officio member of the Charter Review Commission, stating that, at its May 20, 2021 meeting, the BSE had voted unanimously to answer questions from the CRC, but only collectively and not individually. The current members of the BSE would therefore not participate in separate interviews. Robert Kurnick invited the members of the CRC to attend future meetings of the BSE to pose any follow-up questions.

Commissioner Valeri expressed concerns regarding this letter from the BSE. As Mr. Kurnick answered questions raised by Commissioners in the working groups during their deliberations, there was no indication given that this would be the direction going forward. Commissioner Valeri wanted her concern regarding lack of transparency noted for the record.

**VI. Future Meeting**

Tuesday, June 8, 2021—7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 22, 2021—7: 00 p.m.

**VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

**Motion:** to adjourn.

Moved by Commissioner Becker seconded by Commissioner Kelly and approved unanimously.