

**Charter Review Committee
Minutes
Tuesday, April 24, 2007**

7:10 p.m. - Meeting called to order.

ROLL CALL

Present: Members Holan*, Martin, Mathiasen, Rubin & Wallace

Absent: Members Berul & Grossman (excused)

Staff : Jacqueline Bucholz, City Clerk

Public: Robert Outis

*arrived at 7:25 p.m.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-1. March 27, 2007.

MOTION:

Moved by Member Rubin, seconded by Member Wallace to approve minutes with corrections.

Motion carried and so ordered.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

For persons desiring to address the Commission/Committee/Board on an item that is not on the agenda please note that each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes. The Brown Act limits the Commission/Committee/Board ability to take and/or discuss items that are not on the agenda; therefore, such items are normally referred to staff for comment or to a future agenda.

No one wished to speak.

5. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS, WHICH COULD INCLUDE REPORTS AND/OR PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS, IF ANY:

5-1. City Council Compensation – possible Charter Amendment.

The Committee discussed this issue and decided that the Council should receive compensation in line with General Law cities, which is calculated by a formula; and to offer health benefits the same as a full time employee but either use it or lose it.

The following language was agreed upon by Committee Members: The Mayor and each member of the Council shall be entitled to monetary compensation, to health, welfare and other benefits, and to reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses, as

determined by General Law. The Mayor and each member of the Council shall be entitled to health benefits as full-time City employees, or may waive these benefits.

The Committee asked that this language be forwarded to the City Attorney and City Administrator for their review. The Committee also noted that they would like the City Attorney to attend the next meeting to discuss the various Charter Amendments.

It was noted that the Chair of the Committee (to be determined later in the agenda) would prepare or delegate all reports to the City Council.

5-2. Brainstorming procedures for issues meriting Committee consideration.

It was decided by the Committee that this item would be tabled indefinitely due to recommended items from the City Council for consideration for the February, 2008, ballot.

5-3. Review and discussion of Model Charter

Member Martin noted that regarding an elected Mayor as stated in the Model Charter, the Committee should not just look at the size of the City but the rural/urban split and the regional connections. Member Martin stated that when a Mayor is rotated every year it is hard to make any connection with Federal, State or County organizations.

It was noted that the Council can continue to nominate the same Mayor each year and that does not require a Charter Amendment.

After discussion it was decided by the Committee that review and discussion of the Model Charter would be tabled indefinitely due to the work recommended by the City Council.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7-1. The City Clerk handed out a memo from the Mayor regarding four possible Charter Amendments, which were approved by the City Council to refer to the Charter Review Committee: 1) Directly elected Mayor, 2) Council Compensation, 3) Review of Section 3.02, which was referred from the Social & Economic Justice Commission, 4) Review of Section 3.23.

The Committee asked that the following items be on the next agenda: 1) Review of a directly elected Mayor, Section 2.01, 2) Compensation, Section 2.01, 3) Review of Section 3.02 and 4) Review of 3.23.

The City Clerk noted that Section 3.23 could be handled by Resolution or Ordinance instead of a Charter Amendment. Member Wallace noted that he would like to review this section, as he was not happy with the way the Mayor handled the appointment of the two at-large members of the Charter Review Committee; noting that three people were nominated and the Mayor reversed the order of nomination and only voted on two names.

It was noted that an e-mail had been received from Member Grossman stating that he was not available on the 4th Tuesday of the month and would like the meeting day changed.

The Committee discussed this and noted that a) the 4th Tuesday of the month was the regular scheduled time; b) that other committees and commissions meet on other evening, so changing the Charter Review Committee meeting would conflict if members wanted to attend; c) that finding a time that everyone could always attend was probably impossible.

The consensus of the Committee Members was to leave the meeting date as the 4th Tuesday of the month, at 7 p.m. The next meeting is **Tuesday, May 22, 2007.**

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

8-1. Nomination and appointing Chair and Vice-Chair

MOTION:

Member Holan nominated Member Wallace as Chair, seconded by Member Martin.

Motion carried and so ordered.

The Committee decided not to appoint a Vice-Chair tonight but rather wait until the rest of the Committee is present.

9. ADJOURNMENT

8:30 p.m. – It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Minutes submitted by Jacqueline L. Bucholz, CMC, City Clerk.

MICHAEL WALLACE
CHAIR

ATTEST:

JACQUELINE L. BUCHOLZ, CMC
CITY CLERK