

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes - Draft

June 13, 2019

5:30 PM

Gainesville Regional Utilities Multi-Purpose Room

Charter Review Commission

Walter Barry (Member)
Richard Blount (Member)
Susan Bottcher (Member)
Jorge Campos (Member)
Cynthia Chestnut (Member)
Robert Cohen (Member)
Crystal Goodison (Vice-Chair)
Scherwin Henry (Member)
Mary Lou Hildreth (Chair)
Jeremiah Tattersall (Member)
Donna Waller (Member)

If you have a disability and need an accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of Equal Opportunity at (352)334-5051 at least two business days in advance. TTY (Text Telephone Telecommunication Device) users please call 711 (Florida Relay Service). For Speech to Speech (STS) relay, please call 1-877-955-5334. For STS Spanish relay, please call 1-877-955-8773. For STS French Creole relay, please call 1-877-955-8707.

CALL TO ORDER - 5:37 PM

ROLL CALL

Bryan Eastman (alternate) present.

Nick Gonzalez (alternate) absent.

Present 8 - Member Henry, Member Bottcher, Member Goodison, Member Blount, Member Waller, Member Campos, Member Tattersall, and Member Hildreth

Absent 3 - Member Barry, Member Chestnut, and Member Cohen

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Member Henry asked if members could discuss Item No. 190005 (Charter Review Commission Rules Discussion) before he leaves at 7:00 pm.

Member Campos asked question about meeting schedule.

Member Bottcher proposed taking extra time to take up next items on the workplan. Chair Hildreth responded that the Commission should not take up items not included in the agenda.

Suggestion to stagger/add extra items to future agendas in case the meeting moves quickly (can postpone if not covered).

A motion was made by Member Bottcher, seconded by Member Tattersall, that this Matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Member Henry, Member Bottcher, Member Goodison, Member Blount, Member Waller, Member Campos, Member Tattersall, and Member Hildreth

Absent: 3 - Member Barry, Member Chestnut, and Member Cohen

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[190045.](#)

Charter Review Commission Minutes (B)

Chair Hildreth commented about correcting typos/grammatical errors on Page 2 of the minutes.

RECOMMENDATION

The Charter Review Commission approve the minutes of May 30, 2019.

A motion was made by Member Tattersall, seconded by Member Bottcher, that this Matter be Approved as as Amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Member Henry, Member Bottcher, Member Goodison, Member Blount, Member Waller, Member Campos, Member Tattersall, and Member Hildreth

Absent: 3 - Member Barry, Member Chestnut, and Member Cohen

BUSINESS DISCUSSION ITEMS[190039.](#)**Sunshine Law Presentation (B)**

Assistant Attorney, Sean McDermott gave a presentation. He provided copies of Florida Municipal Officials' Manual by Florida League of Cities.

Member Henry asked about creating City email addresses for members.

Member Bottcher asked if a motion was needed to create city email addresses for the next meetings. The Clerk's Office will schedule an IT staff person to attend the next meeting to set up City email accounts on members' laptops or electronic devices. Absent members will be notified.

Chair Hildreth commented about members being cautious with commenting on the CRC on Facebook and other social media in addition to email, text, etc.

Member Bottcher clarified that CRC board members commenting on another members social media would raise a Sunshine issue.

Assistant Attorney McDermott responded that social media posts can also raise public records issues.

Member Bottcher asked about blocking individuals from a public Facebook page for abusive behavior. Assistant Attorney McDermott responded.

Member Henry asked about the CRC having a Facebook page, website or other platform for citizens to submit comments and view on the CRC's work. Chair Hildreth suggested that staff could create a page on the existing City platform. Assistant Attorney McDermott agreed that this suggestion should go through the Communications Department/IT.

Member Campos commented about concern of excluding some citizens from access. Asked staff to look into this possibility.

Attorney Dan Nee asked the board to continue discussing possibility of miscommunication, misinformation and potential of creating unnoticed meetings.

Member Henry clarified that he means to provide opportunities for people to share their thoughts.

Member Campos pointed out rules of decorum at public meetings.

RECOMMENDATION *The Charter Review Commission hear a presentation.*

Discussed

[190005.](#)**Charter Review Commission Rules Discussion (B)**

Motion: Accept rules as amended by the Clerk.

Alternate Eastman commented in support of the simplified version of the UAB rules. Chair Hildreth agreed. Attorney Dan Nee spoke to the matter. Member Henry

commented.

Chair Hildreth commented about an excused absence, asked for input from members. Member Blount responded. Vice-Chair Goodison responded.

Alternate Eastman asked about whether the City Commission or Board removes members. Dan Nee responded that the City Commission handles removals and appointments.

Member Henry commented about clarifying excused absences.

Chair Hildreth asked if the Clerk's Office will be keeping track of members who notify that they will be absent. Members should notify the Clerk of anticipated absences and copy Chair Hildreth ahead of time of anticipated absences (if possible).

Member Campos asked about calling in to meetings. Dan Nee clarified that attendance would be counted as present for meeting but not for quorum.

Chair Hildreth asked about whether the City Manager's Office will provide Sergeant at Arms. Fred Murry will serve as Sergeant at Arms.

RECOMMENDATION The Charter Review Commission discuss and set rules for future meetings.

A motion was made by Member Campos, seconded by Member Goodison, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Member Henry, Member Bottcher, Member Goodison, Member Blount, Member Waller, Member Campos, Member Tattersall, and Member Hildreth

Absent: 3 - Member Barry, Member Chestnut, and Member Cohen

190006.

Proposed Workplan and Meeting Schedule (NB)

Motion: 1) Adopt proposed tentative schedule: 1st Monday of the month, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm; 2) Staff will reach out to Member Chestnut to consult on availability; and 3) Reschedule Labor Day meeting.

Provide update on progress with workplan at each meeting.

Members reviewed the results of the meeting scheduling poll and discussed options.

Proposed workplan: Chair Hildreth will coordinate with staff on items to include on each meeting agenda. Vice-Chair Goodison commented.

Member Campos asked a question about workflow process. Dan Nee responded, suggested bringing in a staff facilitator if needed to address specific issues. Member Bottcher commented about scheduling additional meetings as needed to workshop specific items. Member Henry commented.

Chair Hildreth commented that she will work with the Clerk to craft an agenda that includes items appropriate for the meeting time, allowing additional time as needed.

Alternate Eastman commented about looking to other charter review processes for ideas. Chair Hildreth responded. Dan Nee suggested referencing notes from the last

Alachua County Charter Review; staff will send out to the Board.

RECOMMENDATION *The Charter Review Commission determine the future meeting schedule.*

A motion was made by Member Bottcher, seconded by Member Campos, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Member Henry, Member Bottcher, Member Goodison, Member Blount, Member Waller, Member Campos, Member Tattersall, and Member Hildreth

Absent: 3 - Member Barry, Member Chestnut, and Member Cohen

[190038.](#)

2.0 General Overview of Charter (B)

Attorney Nee gave an overview of the City Charter.

Members asked questions. Attorney Nee responded; encouraged board members to give staff direction if they would like additional information presented about specific charter articles.

RECOMMENDATION *The Charter Review Commission discuss and take action deemed necessary.*

Discussed

MEMBER COMMENT

Chair Hildreth suggested including items 2.1 Article I and 2.2 Article II at the next meeting. Members agreed.

Attorney Nee reminded members to ask questions or request more information before the next meeting of the City Attorney's office.

Member Bottcher asked about lead time required for public notice of meetings. Attorney Nee responded that 72 hours is generally given.

PUBLIC COMMENT

*Mr. Green
Jo Beaty*

Vice-Chair Goodison responded that it would help to have signage on the building directing the public to the meeting room.

Member Bottcher requested a row of chairs along the side of the meeting tables to facilitate communication with members of the public.

Alternate Eastman asked staff to keep time during public comment.

ADJOURNMENT - 7:16 PM

Motion by Member Bottcher, seconded by Vice-Chair Goodison to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 PM. Motion passed 8-0.

