

Revised 12/22/2011

Minutes of the 17th Charter Revision Commission Government Committee Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2011

Present: Vincent J. Freccia, Josh Fedeli, Susan Nabel, Rich Roseman, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. (arrived 7:29 p.m.)

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Freccia.

Following Agenda item 1, Chairman Freccia asked the Committee to accept or amend the list of items it had agreed to remove from consideration at its December 12 meeting.

The items were:

Charge 5	Charge 89 (C5-30-5)
Charge 11a (C6-00-1)	Charge 90 (C5-30-5)
Charge 35a (C1-70-3)	Charge 104 (C5-20-3)
Charge 83 (C1-40-5)	Charge 115
Charge 85	Charge 116

Seeing no discussion, Chairman Freccia asked for a motion to agree to remove the items from the discussion list. The motion was made by Josh Fedeli, seconded by Richard Roseman, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Freccia called the Committee's attention to an additional request for consideration of an addition to the Charter submitted by Mr. Frank Vartuli. The request concerns an addition to Sec. C6-190-3. The Committee will consider whether it will entertain discussion of Mr. Vartuli's suggestion for Charter Revision at its next meeting.

The Committee also agreed to retain its request to discuss Charge 20, re: C5-50-2 concerning the Internal Audit Function, in collaboration with the Finance Committee.

The Committee then discussed the following Charges regarding Boards & Commissions:

Charge 9: C6-00-2/C6-00-4: The Committee agreed by consensus to recommend aligning the terms of the Fire and Police Commissions with the Mayor's term of office. The Committee will retain for further debate the possibility of adding other appointed Boards (i.e., Health Commission) to this category. Pending that discussion, the Committee by consensus agreed it would recommend retaining staggered terms for remaining appointed Boards & Commissions. The Committee agreed by consensus to recommend that the terms of members of appointed Boards & Commissions terminate after 6 months from their expiration date.

Charge 10: C6-00-3: The Committee by consensus agreed to maintain December 1 as the expiration date of terms of service regardless of the month of formal appointment.

Charge 11: C6-00-3: The Committee agreed by consensus not to consider “raising the bar” by determining or specifying qualifications for service on appointed Boards and Commissions. The Committee further agreed by consensus to recommend measures to depoliticize the appointment process and to consider that the Charter require public notice at least annually by the Mayor’s office of upcoming term expiration for the purpose of soliciting candidates for these openings.

Charge 25, 26, 27:

C6-160-1: The Committee by consensus agreed to recommend elimination of the Water Pollution Control Commission.

C6-160-6: The Committee by consensus agreed to recommend elimination of this article of the Charter.

C-150-1; C250-2: The Committee by consensus agreed to recommend that the Personnel Appeals Commission be merged into the Personnel Appeals Board

C6-70-2: The Committee by consensus agreed to recommend that the Municipal Building Board of Appeals be eliminated.

Charge 107: C6-00-2; C6-30-1: The Committee agreed by consensus not to amend the provisions regarding qualifications for membership on the Planning Board.

This completed discussion of Charges concerning appointed Boards and Commissions.

In scheduling the next meeting, the Committee agreed to consider Tuesday December 27 and Tuesday January 3 as its next dates, pending information on scheduling. Chairman Freccia would need to attend on either date via teleconference.

On a motion made by Dudley Williams and seconded by Richard Roseman, the minutes of the 12/12 meeting were accepted unanimously

At 8:40 p.m., Josh Fedeli made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rich Roseman. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Nabel