

17TH CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

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Vincent J. Freccia, III, Chair

Members

JOSH FEDELI

SUSAN A. NABEL

RICH ROSEMAN

DUDLEY N. WILLIAMS, JR.

MINUTES OF MEETING AGENDA

Monday, January 09, 2012

6:00 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

4th Floor, Government Center

888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06904-2152

Present: Vincent J. Freccia by phone; Josh Fedeli; Susan Nabel; Dudley N. Williams, Jr.
Rich Roseman was excused due to family illness.

Rosanne McManus of the Charter Revision Commission attended.

Visitors: Frank Vartulli; John Mallozzi

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chairman Freccia.

Agenda item 1: Chairman Freccia reviewed charges recommended to be removed from discussion by the Commission as a whole. The items were:

Charge 5

Charge 89 (C5-30-5)

Charge 11a (C6-00-1)

Charge 35a (C1-70-3)

Charge 104 (C5-20-3)

Charge 83 (C1-40-5)

Charge 115

Charge 85

Charge 116

Charge 90 was retained for additional discussion by the Committee, which will invite Ms. McManus and Tim McGuinness to provide further information. 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.

Agenda item 2: Mr. Freccia called the Committee's attention to a request for consideration of an addition to the Charter submitted by Mr. Frank Vartulli. The request concerns an addition to Sec. C6-190-3. Josh Fedeli questioned the history and current presence of the Social Services Commission; Susan Nabel commented that certain aspects of a Citizens Bill of Rights should be discussed but might not be appropriate for an inclusion in the Charter. Dudley Williams concurred. It was agreed that further research into the current business before the Social Services Commission as well as

any precedents for a Citizens' Bill of Rights should be conducted. The Committee tabled the item for further consideration.

Agenda item 3:

Charge 1: The Committee agreed to recommend the wording "the first business day in December."

Charge 2: The Committee tabled for further consideration.

Charge 3: The Committee agreed by consensus that, at the end of a term of the Board of Representatives, items on the agenda be terminated and be reintroduced by members of the incoming administration.

Charge 4: The Committee agreed by consensus to recommend that the BOR by resolution be permitted to skip a meeting for one month per year.

Charge 6: The Committee agreed by consensus that the wording should be that the Mayor must return an ordinance within 10 business days to the Board of Representatives.

Charge 6a: The correct Charter reference is Sec 3-10-4. The Committee agreed by consensus that the Mayor should give written notification of being absent from the city for any period of 48 hours or more to the President and/or Secretary of the Board of Representatives and/or the Town Clerk.

Charge 7 and 8: The Committee agreed by consensus to recommend that the Clerk of the Board of Representatives present an ordinance to the Mayor within in two business days of the BOR vote. Upon presentation to the Mayor, the Clerk should receive dated official acknowledgement of receipt.

The Mayor then has 10 business days to approve the ordinance and return it to the BOR.

If the Mayor does not approve/take action on the ordinance after 10 business days, the ordinance becomes effective after another 10 business days have passed.

Charge 16: tabled by Consensus of the Committee.

Charge 16a: The Committee agreed by consensus to recommend the addition of "or his/her designee" after the word "appear."

Charge 28: The Committee agreed to recommend that an addition to the Charter limits an individual to be elected to one elected Board. For further consideration: limit service on one elected Board/no or one appointed Board.

Charge 29: The committee agreed by consensus to recommend the term of Constable be 4 years.

Charge 35b: The committee agreed by consensus to recommend replacing the word “meeting” with “election” subject to Counsel’s checking with the state. It also agree to recommend rewriting the first sentence to make it work based on staggered terms for all elected boards.

Charge 82: The Committee agreed to recommend language that would set the timing of Charter review for each ten years and to recommend that the appointments to the Commission be made no later than the February BOR meeting of each 10th year. The revision process should be synchronized for referendum occurring in either a Presidential, gubernatorial or Mayoral election.

Charge 84: The Committee agreed to table for further discussion.

Charge 86: The Committee agreed not to recommend that Special Assistants to the Mayor be approved by the BOR.

Charge 96: 10 business days for the Mayor to sign.

If Mayor doesn’t sign, then the President of the BOR has authority to sign, provided the Mayor doesn’t have the authority to disallow any contracts.

Charge 101: The Committee’s recommendation is to add the language, “Notwithstanding any provision hereinafter to the contrary, the Building Officer reports directly to the Director of Operations.”

Agenda item 4: the Committee agreed to schedule a public hearing in the near future to gather input on various recommendations. Chairman Freccia will invite the Mayor, Attorney Larobina, Fred Flynn, and Prakash Chakravarti to address the Committee at future meetings.

Agenda item 5: The Committee agreed to calendar its next meeting on Wednesday January 18, followed by Monday January 23 and Monday January 30.

On a motion made by Dudley Williams and seconded by Josh Fedeli, the minutes of the 12/19 meeting as revised on 12/22 were accepted unanimously

At 8:50 p.m., Josh Fedeli made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Susan Nabel. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Nabel

This meeting is on [video](#).