

**17<sup>TH</sup> CHARTER REVISION  
COMMISSION  
PUBLIC SAFETY &  
HEALTH/EDUCATION/ETHICS COMMITTEE**  
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Jay H. Sandak, Chair

Members

*CLARENCE R. GREBEY, III*

*MICHAEL C. JACHIMCZYK*

*GAIL S. OKUN*

*ROBERT S. ROBINS*

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

7:00 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Government Center

888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06904-2152

The 17th Charter Revision Commission Public Safety & Health/Education/Ethics Committee was called to order by Chair Jay Sandak at 7:01. All committee members were in attendance: Jay Sandak, Clarence Grebey, Michael Jachimczyk, Gail Okun, and Robert Robins. Also in attendance were Commission Members Rosanne McManus, Dudley Williams, and Joanna Gwozdzowski; and John Didelot, and Frank Vartuli.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from February 21, 2012; said motion was unanimously approved.

A letter from Joseph Tarzia regarding Qualifications for Membership on the Ethics Board was introduced. Discussion followed and it was agreed to put it on the agenda as an additional charge in a future meeting at which Mr. Tarzia will be invited to speak.

There was a review of research done by Commission Member Robert Robins regarding references to party affiliation in the Charter. Discussion followed and it was decided to table the matter, and to discuss it with the whole commission.

Discussion followed regarding fifty two questionnaires that were sent to fire companies identified by the state as having combined fire districts. There have been six responses, and they were distributed and will be made available to the public. Minutes from the October 20, 2011 Board of Representative Public Safety & Health Committee meeting where the Chief from Greenwich testified was shared with the committee. These items will be discussed in two weeks.

A draft preliminary report to the full commission was shared. It was decided to add the discussion of the issue of political affiliation to 2c on the draft and add the discussion

with Mr. Tarzia to item 5 on the draft. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to present the draft the whole commission with the amendments (see attached).

Mr. Grebey reported on a meeting of the Board of Representatives Education Committee with Dr. Hamilton and staff regarding BOE control of capital budgets. Discussion followed and a motion was made, seconded, and approved to defer the BOE request made by Mr. Hugh Murphy re: c5-30-2 in this matter. (See [attached letter](#) from Hugh Murphy to Winifred Hamilton regarding capital projects less than \$1,000,000.)

Discussion followed on issues related to the Board of Education. Items 30 and 31 regarding lessening the role of politics in the election of Board of Education candidates was tabled. Item 97 concerning the role of the Mayor on the Board will be discussed with input from the Mayor. Discussion will follow on items 99 and 100 to consolidate management.

It was decided that the committee should have further discussion regarding Fire Service. It was suggested that the committee review the League of Women Voters report on the Fire Service.

Discussion followed on the process to be taken by the Commission regarding the recommendations to be put forth. Questions arose regarding the items that will appear on the ballot and the role of the Commission as an advocate in the process of educating the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Gail Okun

*This meeting is on [video](#).*