

**17TH 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

Monday, April 16, 2012

7:00 p.m. – Legislative Chambers, 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 Sandak at 7:02 on April 16, 2012. The committee members in attendance were: Jay Sandak, Gail Okun, Clarence Grebey, and Robert Robins. Also in attendance were Commission members Dudley Williams and Rosanne McManus and a member of the volunteer fire service.

Before reviewing and discussing the items assigned to the committee from the Master Chart Chair Sandak suggested discussing the role of the Fire Commission in regards to an integrated fire service. The committee discussed the role and the membership of such a commission. It was suggested that there be two volunteer members, two career members, and three citizens with no previous fire service background on the Fire Commission. If an integrated fire department were established with career and volunteer fire personnel, with a single chief of the department responsible for the fire fighting, personnel, duly elected leaders, divisional chiefs would have the primary responsibility to supervise the staff and maintain primary responsibility for their districts.

There was consensus that there should be:

1. a single fire department
2. a single chief
3. with the primary fire fighters remaining in their district for response
4. unified training and SOP
5. a Fire Commission that represents the single fire department with two volunteer members, two career members, and three members from the public.
6. one office of Fire Marshal

The review of the items assigned from the Master Chart

- Item 24 - language will be changed as follows: The Health Director will seek counsel of the Health Commission to establish and review all matters of health

policy for the city. A provision 5 is to be added to C-5-40 as follows: The Director of Health shall keep the Health Commission advised on matters pertaining to health matters in the city.

- Item 30 - C 1 - 80 - 5 is waiting a legal opinion
- Items 72-75 are on hold for further discussion.
- Item 76 is deferred for legislative action by the Board of Representatives
- Item 97- there is no need for action
- Item 98 - C 1 - 80- 1 the committee recognized the need of the BOE to maintain its independence but suggests adding that the Mayor have the ability to appoint a special assistant at his/her discretion to serve as his/her designee at the meetings and attend executive sessions.
- Item 99 - was considered a management issue
- Item 100 - no action was taken as the case was not made for a change.

The committee suggests that item 120 be added for a Board of Ethics in the Charter. It should include that:

1. There shall be a Board of Ethics
2. A Code of Ethics shall be adopted by the Board of Representatives
3. The membership of the Board shall consist of 7 members and 2 alternates and no more than three members may be affiliated with a single political party.
4. The members will be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Board of Representatives.
5. The terms shall be staggered.
6. Members will remain on the Board until a case is completed.
7. The term shall be three years.
8. The powers [C-6-149-7] shall be as follows: adjudicate violations of the Ethics Code, have subpoena powers [C 6-146-7]
9. The Corporation Counsel shall serve except if there is a conflict of interest.
10. Current membership will be abolished upon the effective date or later upon the completion of a pending matter or upon acceptance by the electorate.

There will be an identification of saving clauses forthcoming.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Grebey, seconded by Mrs. Okun and accepted at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Okun

This meeting is on [video](#).