



**2011 Charter Committee
Board of Representatives**

John Mallozzi, Co-Chair

Mary Fedeli, Co-Chair

Report of Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2011
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Democratic Caucus Room
888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The 2011 Charter Committee of the Board of Representatives met as indicated above. Present were Co-Chairs Mallozzi and Fedeli and Committee Member Reps. Day, DePina, Layton, Savage, Sklover, Summerville and Taylor.

Co-Chair Mallozzi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following candidates were interviewed for appointment to the Charter Commission.

Brian Kriftcher
Robert Robins
Evelyn Sommer
David Lucas
Claire Fishman
Joanna Gwozdziowski
Paul Newman
Jay Sandak
Marty Levine
Karen Murphy

The Committee discussed the draft [charge](#). Members reviewed the resolution approving the Charge for the 16th Charter Revision Commission (see attached) as well as the attached list of items submitted by the President Co-Chair Fedeli noted that this list included items that the Board Office has accumulated over the years. The Co-Chairs explained that this list is only a suggestion, commission members can choose to review the items, make changes or ignore the recommendations. Further, the Commission cannot be limited in its scope.

Additional items discussed were:

1. Consideration to eliminating the Board of Finance and moving its responsibilities to the Fiscal Committee of the BOR was discussed by the last

charter commission. This would comply with state law if it was structured so that an item turned down by the committee could not be taken out of committee by the full Board. The Commission should also look into narrowing the responsibilities of the BOF so that it deals strictly with financial matters.

2. Review of the fire services should be limited to C5-43 with consideration only to whether the districts should be eliminated. The actual plan should be fashioned by the BOR.
3. Cabinet positions. The Commission should review whether the Director of Public Safety should be a cabinet, contract or civil service position and whether background requirements should be included. The Commission should consider whether The Director of Legal Affairs should be a full time/contract position
4. Sec. C7-10-2 – give the Mayor the authority to appoint a trustee for each pension plan.
5. Sec. C7-10-8 – delete paragraphs 2 and 5 that requires money that police seized during be deposited to the police pension fund.
6. Do not permit serving on two or more elected boards (BOF, BOR and BOE).
7. Increase the terms of the constables to 4 years.
8. Simplification of the public improvements Section C8-60-1 through C8-60. These sections relate to changing streets, private property, etc.
9. Should the HR department report to the Legal Department? Should Land Use be under Operations?
10. Board of Ed labor contracts and clarify the approval process.
11. The inclusion of the Mayor on the Board of Education as a non-voting member should be looked at.
12. Term limits.
13. Separate parks and recreation divisions.

There were several items that required clarification by the President of the Board:

1. Recusal if charged with an ethics violation?
2. Representation of legal counsel?
3. Status of items at the end of board terms.

The Committee continued the meeting until September 26, 2011 at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Fedeli, Co-Chair
John Mallozzi, Co-Chair

This meeting is available on video – [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)