



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Charter Review Commission

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

6 PM - 8 PM

City Hall – Executive Conference Room

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of Minutes of May 1 and May 4, pending availability**
- 4. Review and Confirm or Amend Agenda - - Time for Items 1 – 4: 5 minutes**
- 5. Public Comments (Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes. Public comment at this point in the meeting is limited to a total of ten minutes; additional public comment time will be added to the end of the agenda if needed.) – 10 minutes**
- 6. Old Business**
 - a. Placeholder - Revised draft project plan for CRC – 5 minutes**
 - i. Discuss path to meeting deadline for draft amendments by May 15 and draft report by May 15**
 - b. Update on use of CRC email by the public**
 - c. Plan for meeting with Councilor Posch – Linda Striefsky**
 - d. Finish discussion of proposed changes to salary provisions for City Council and Mayor (Roland Anglin draft) – 5 minutes**
 - i. Roland Anglin – report on input from Judith Miles**
 - e. Discussion of revised draft of proposed text for Ranked Choice Voting charter provision and of ordinance draft - Drew Herzig and Harriet Applegate – 20 minutes.**
 - i. Report from Harriet Applegate and Guy Thellian regarding incorporation into RCV bucket of Charter provisions to be revised/deleted if RCV is adopted – 10 minutes**
 - f. Status report on plans for second public input meeting, to be held May 21 – 10 minutes –**
 - i. Location at Lee Road Library**



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- 1. Plans for publicity – status**
 - a. Press release, notice in Heights Observer calendar
 - b. City Newsletter
 - c. Posting of flyers
 - d. RSVPs
- 2. Room layout report – Drew Herzog**
- 3. Update on draft PPT slides from Linda Striefsky**
 - a. Any additional comments?
- g. Discuss any CRC member questions/comments on revisions to charter draft – 10 minutes**
 - i. Use of “electors” versus “registered voters” – Graig Kluge – 5 minutes
 - ii. Question on report required by Article 13 (formerly in Section 3.6) – Should it be limited to employment matters as required by current Charter? – Linda Striefsky
- h. Status of drafting of segments for report and of proposed Charter – 30 minutes**
 - i. Revised draft of Finance/Budget text for Report, including treatment of reference to sustainability - Guy Thellian
 - ii. Discussion of edits to Report text for nondiscrimination provision - Drew Herzog
 - iii. Discussion of RCV Report insert – Harriet Applegate and Drew Herzog
 - iv. Discussion of Report insert on changes to petition signature requirements – Guy Thellian
 - v. Discussion of Report insert on other Art Eight points – Graig Kluge
 - vi. Discussion of land acknowledgement Report insert – Graham Bell
 - vii. Discussion of ethics and training Report insert – Graig Kluge –
- i. Complete decisions on contents of proposed charter amendment “buckets” (see Exhibit A) and on whether CRC recommendations will be presented as one amended charter and/ or as buckets (tentative) – 10 minutes**
- 7. Review of Meeting Action Items – 5 minutes**
- 8. Public Comments (10 minutes) – 10 minutes**
- 9. Review of Meeting for Lessons Learned – 3 minutes**
- 10. Next Meeting: Saturday, May 11 from 10 AM to 3 PM.**
- 11. Adjourn**



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EXHIBIT A

Possible Bucket Groupings for Charter Revision

Bucket #1 - *largely adopting text developed by 2019 CRC*

- Update and simplify presentation and language throughout
- Replacing 'electors' with 'voters', for example, replacing Roman numerals with Arabic numbers, gender-neutral language throughout

Bucket #2

- Adjust numbers, percentages, and the like on numbers of signatures needed for initiatives, recalls, etc., for days to file petitions, to fill vacancies, etc. – *We did not discuss/agree on any adjustments to percentage of signatures needed. The only context in which changes in number of sigs was raised by CC members was number needed on petitions of candidates.*

The context for change in days was suggestions by some CCs to give CC 60 days to fill vacancy and discussion of whether official publicity should be issued 30 days (or some other advance date) before early voting, rather than 30 days before election day.

- Adjust election requirements for appointed city councilors – *This refers to when an appointed CC has to stand for election.*

Bucket #3

- 'Ethics for elected officials' and 'parliamentary procedure' trainings for all newly-elected city officials – *I would add orientation and training of roles and responsibilities of mayor, CC*



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and directors.

- Comprehensive non-discrimination policy statement – *Should this be separate bucket?*

Bucket #4

- Balance of powers between executive and legislative branches
- Council authority to request information and/or attendance at Council meetings from department heads, through mayor's office or directly
- Individual councilor's authority to contact department heads directly
- Mayor's authority to appoint department heads, with or without Council approval
- Who appoints to fill vacancy on dead-locked Council? Council president or mayor?
- Law Director available to advise City Council? On what terms?
- *Add statement of expectation of cooperation and collaboration between the 2 branches*

Bucket #5 – [Omitted]

Bucket #6 - Ranked Choice Voting – *Again, this would require drafting to effect this. Model Charter refers to Ranked Choice Voting Resource Center for mechanics. I have not researched that. When we elect CC, in effect we have a version of RCV because the ballot has multiple candidates for multiple seats, with the highest vote getters winning a seat.*

Bucket #7 - Additional provisions relating to change in form of government – Should provision on CC salary and on Mayor salary be made consistent as to Civil Service Commission input? Fix references to definition of Mayor's term and when election follows Mayoral vacancy; revise Art VII, Section 1 regarding timing for elections after Mayoral or Council vacancy

Bucket #8 – Land Acknowledgement