

Charter Review Commission  
Minutes of Governance Sub-Committee Meeting on 4/15/21

The following were discussed:

1. Call to Order - Meeting on Zoom called to order at 7:03 pm by Dave Anderson, Chair.
2. Roll Call - Present: Dave Anderson, Janet Brownell, David Dehlendorf, Jane Fuller, Tony Ghazel, Dick Grout, Kevin Ranker, & Olivia Roseberry.
3. Approval of 4/1/21 Minutes - Approved 7-0. There were no minutes for 4/8/21 as that meeting was cancelled.
4. Issue #6 (Clarify That County Council Cannot Levy Taxes) - Ghazel withdrew his suggested amendment to Section 2.30(2)(a), expressing agreement with the opinions of the other members of our sub-committee that the existing charter wording satisfies his belief that the County Council should not have the authority to levy taxes without voter approval.
5. Issue #19 (Increase in Minimum Number of Required County Council Meetings) - By consensus, it was agreed to leave unchanged the existing wording of Section 2.41 (Rules of Procedure) that requires the Council to meet at least twice per month. It was agreed that increasing this minimum would be unnecessarily micro-managing the Council's activities.
6. Issue #7 (Other Proposed Amendments to Articles 2 & 4) - The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing three of the six amendments to Articles 2 & 4 proposed by Tony Ghazel in an attempt to clarify the relationship between the County Council and the County Manager. No motions were made to approve any of the proposed amendments. It was agreed by consensus to drop further consideration of the proposal to amend Section 2.31 (Executive Powers and Duties) by reducing the list from seven to four. The reasons for dropping the proposed change included satisfaction with the existing wording even if redundant and concern over potentially overloading the ballot with too many proposed minor changes. We next discussed the proposals to amend Section 2.42 (Interactions with County Employees) and Section 2.70 (Resolutions). No decisions were made, with Ranker instead volunteering to draft a revised amendment to Section 2.42 for discussion at our next meeting. He will also consult with Randy Gaylord about the proposed change to Section 2.70, suggesting that the entire section might be superfluous given existing state law. Having run out of time, there was no discussion of Ghazel's remaining three proposed amendments to Sections 4.20, 4.40, & 4.41, discussion of which will be put on our agenda for our next meeting. Grout strongly encouraged all of us to study these remaining amendments thoroughly in preparation for this discussion.
7. New Business - None.
8. Public Comment - No members of the public were present on Zoom.
9. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn approved 6-1 at 8:25 pm.

Minutes prepared by David Dehlendorf and submitted to chair on 4/19/21.