

MINUTES OF THE CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE

**June 8, 2020
9705 E. Hibiscus Street
Palmetto Bay, Fl**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:30 pm.

The following members of the Charter Review Commission were present:

David Zisman

Mitchell Mandler

Marc Levy

Tim Schaffer

Councilman Patrick Fiore, serving as the non-voting Council member.

The following staff members were present:

Greg Truitt, Interim Village Manager

John Delagloria, Village Attorney

Also present:

Mark Merwitzer

2. It was confirmed that a quorum present.
3. There were no public comments.
4. Old Business.
 - a. Discussion of proposed Charter Revision #8. This provides "Shall a Charter Amendment Allow Council Members to Make Informational Inquires of Administration Staff?". The new language, as prepared by the Village Attorney was reviewed. The Village Attorney will revise once more and will send it by Wednesday morning for final review at Thursday meeting.
 - b. The Village Attorney wants the Committee to confirm all matters that have been voted on. David Zisman will discuss at next meeting.
 - c. There was discussion on proposed Charter Amendment #7 which provides "Shall the Charter Require a 4/5 Vote to Buy, Sell or Lease Property Over \$25,000." It was agreed to add a sentence at the end of the summary to provide in excess of \$25,000. A motion was made by Mandler to approve with that added sentence,

Motion was seconded. The vote to add Proposal #7 with added language was: Zisman, yes, Mandler, yes; Levy, yes; Schaffer, yes. The Motion passed 4-0.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Tim Schaffer moved to approve minutes from last meeting and was seconded by M. Levy. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

6. New Business

- a. The Village Attorney read out loud the various Proposals/Amendments that were approved by the Commission to date. The Village attorney read out loud Proposed Amendment # 1 relating to the single member district. There was no objection from the Committee members present.
- b. The Village Attorney read out loud the Proposal related to the requirement of 65% of the electorate within 2,000 feet of a private school to approve expansion followed by a required 4/5 of the Village Council. There was no objection from the Committee members present.
- c. The Village Attorney read out load the Proposal #3 that the Charter shall be amended to require voter approval for before any reduction of park land in the Village. There was no objection from the Committee members present.
- d. The Village Attorney read out load the proposal #4 that provides that the term council member be changed to commissioner. There was no objection from the Committee members present.
- e. The Village Attorney read out load the proposed Charter Amendment that requires a 4/5 vote of the Village Council to buy, sell or lease property in the Village in excess of \$25,000. There was no objection from the Committee members present.
- f. The Village Attorney read out load proposed Charter Amendment #5 that provides that the Charter shall be amended to establish grounds for termination of the Village Manager. No action was taken on this.
- g. There was discussion on proposed Charter Amendment #4 which had been previously approved by the Committee.
- h. The Village Attorney pointed out that the Committee had 7 proposals so far and one was outstanding. Discussion on how many amendments would be permitted

by the County. Zisman suggest ed that if we had a limit, Proposal #4 would be the first to be eliminated and would be placed last on the ballot.

- i. The Village Attorney agreed to slightly re-draft and clean up proposals #7 and #9.
- j. Chairman Zisman brought up for discussion the language in the first sentence of 10.2 of the Village Charter. He asked if one of the Committee members would be willing to bring it back for re-consideration. There was some discussion on the language and whether 10.2 should be deleted in its entirety. Members Mandler and Levy would not vote in favor of bringing the prior vote back for re-consideration.
- k. Tim Schaffer introduced Mark Merwitzer and Mark’s proposal related to changing the way voting is done so that it could eliminate the need for a runoff when 2 or more candidates are running. He asked generally if we are interested and if so, he would ask the Village Attorney to write it up, circulate and discuss at next meeting. The Village Attorney said that he could not do that by the next meeting. Tim said that other cities around the country are using this method known as the Ranked Choice Voting” process. It was pointed out by Schaffer that historically 9-10 thousand resident votes in the general election and only 3,000 or less vote in the runoff if there is one. By using this system, the voter would rank their ballot choice in order of 1st, 2nd and 3rd, etc. with a systems of points and the rankings can be counted to determine which candidate (or candidates) is (or are) elected. It was decided that a discussion on this topic would be set over to next meeting, after everyone had a chance to review.

7. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Schaffer, seconded by Mandler. The vote to adjourn was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by the Charter Revision
Commission this ____ day of
_____, 2020.

Missy Arocha, Village Clerk

David Zisman, Chairperson