

MINUTES OF THE CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE

**June 11, 2020
9705 E. Hibiscus Street
Palmetto Bay, Fl**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm.

The following members of the Charter Review Commission were present:

David Zisman

Mitchell Mandler

Marc Levy

Tim Schaffer

Shelly Stanczyk

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, resident

Gary Pastorella, resident

2. It was confirmed that a quorum present.

3. Public comments:

Gary Pastorella spoke and discussed his views on any changes to the Charter that would include changing to a ranked choice for elections. He wanted it to remain as it is in the Charter now with runoffs and expressed concern that a change in voting election process could change the power structure and politics in the Village.

4. Old Business.

- a. John Delagloria said that the Village clerk had been instructed to call the County to see if seven proposed amendments would be too many for the Village to list on the ballot. He said they had not gotten back to him before the meeting.
- b. Mr. Delagloria read the new proposed Amendment #6 which reads "Shall the Charter require a 4/5 vote to buy, sell or lease property over \$25,000". There was

a motion to approve which was seconded by Marc Levy. The vote was unanimous, and all were in favor of the amendment as written.

- c. Mr. Delagloria read the newly written proposed Amendment #7 which reads “Shall a Charter Amendment allow Council Members to Make Informational Inquires of Village Employees?” There was no discussion. Tim Schaffer moved to adopt as written. The motion was seconded. The vote was unanimous to adopt the Amendment #7 as written.
- d. Mr. Delagloria read the newly written proposed Amendment #4 which states “Shall the term “Council Member” in the Charter and Village Code be changed to “Commissioner.” Mr. Delagloria said that this needs to be changed to address the title with the use of Mayor. He then suggested “Shall the term Mayor and Council be changed to Mayor and Commissioner of Palmetto Bay”. He said that the summary portion of the Amendment would also have to change. Mr. Delagloria suggested that this proposed amendment should be re-written and presented at the next meeting for approval.

5. New Business

- a. Mark Merwitzer was introduced by Tim Schaffer. Mr. Merwitzer presented a slide presentation related to instant runoff voting. His presentation included certain statistics regarding past elections in Palmetto Bay and he explained the issues with the current top two runoff procedure as used in Palmetto Bay. He also explained “Ranked Choice Voting” and how that would work in the Village. He gave his view on how Ranked Choice Voting would save taxpayers money. There was a discussion of other locations in Florida and the U.S. where this system has been implemented. This presentation was followed by a discussion and questions by the Committee members about the pros and cons. No motion was made at the conclusion of the presentation and no vote was taken.
- b. After the presentation, Mr. Delagloria said he had re-written proposed amendment #4 and read the following out loud “Shall the Mayor and Village Council be changed to Commissioners and Mayor of Palmetto Bay, Florida”. Tim Schaffer moved to adopt the proposed Amendment #4 as written. The motion was seconded by Shelly Stanczyk. The vote to approve Amendment #4 as written passed by unanimous vote.
- c. The Committee members agreed that the next meeting of the Charter Revision Committee would be held on June 30th at 6:30pm.
- d. Remaining items for next meeting are Marc Levy’s proposal to have mail in ballots only; Shelly Stanczyk proposal to eliminate runoffs and to bring back Mark Merwitzer for further discussion on his proposal.

6. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Tim Schaffer, seconded by Mitchell Mandler. The vote to adjourn was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.

Respectfully submitted:

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

Missy Arocha, Village Clerk

David Zisman, Chairperson