



Charter Review Commission

City of San José

MINUTES

<https://sanjoseca.zoom.us/j/91220304185>

6:00 PM

Monday, June 14, 2021

Present: Chair- Frederick Ferrer; Members- Barbara Marshman, Christina Johnson, Elizabeth Monley (6:03 p.m.), Elly Matsumura, Enrico Callender, Frank Maitski, Garrick Percival, George Sanchez, Huy Tran, Jeremy Barousse, Jose Posadas, Linda LeZotte, Louis Barocio, Magnolia Segol, Maria Fuentes, Sammy Robledo (6:20 p.m.), Sherry Segura (6:04 p.m.), Thi Tran, Veronica Amador (6:30 p.m.), Yong Zhao (6:05 p.m.)

Absent: Lan Diep

Staff: Lawrence Grodeska, Consultant; Megan Roche, Legislative Secretary; Mark Vanni, Senior Deputy City Attorney

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. Consent Calendar

a) Approve Charter Review Commission Minutes.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner H. Tran and seconded by Commissioner Marshman, the Commission moved to adopt the Charter Review Commission minutes from the meeting dated 5/17/2021. (17-0-3-1; Absent: Diep, Robledo, Amador; Abstention: T. Tran)

Public Comment: None

III. Reports & Information- N/A

IV. Public Hearing- N/A

V. Old Business

1. Discussion and possible action on Charter Review Commission Work Plan.

a) Report from Chair

The Chair provided a brief overview of the timeline for the Commission. He explained that the Commission has completed its study session phase and is now moving into the

stage of proposing recommendations and deliberation. Chair Ferrer noted that all future meetings of the Charter Review Commission will be scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

b) Report from Clerk- None.

c) Report from Consultant- None.

Consultant Lawrence Grodeska reviewed the most recent revisions made to the Commission's Work Plan. He highlighted the public hearing dates and deadlines for subcommittee recommendations within the Work Plan.

Public Comment: None

2. Update on Community Engagement and Preparation for First Public Hearing.

Consultant Lawrence Grodeska provided an update on the Commission's selection of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs). He held a kick-off meeting with the selected organizations to outline the Commission's engagement process. Commissioners provided comment on the draft outreach materials and presentation.

Public Comment: Matt King, on behalf of Sacred Heart Community Service, raised concern over the cost itemization component of the CBO interest form and also over the examples in the draft outreach presentation which he claimed were not unbiased. Ellina echoed the comments of Matt King, and expressed interest in seeing both a detailed breakdown of the Commission's budget allocation for CBOs and a list of the CBO applicants.

VI. New Business

a) Subcommittee Reports.

Consultant Lawrence Grodeska provided an overview of how the Commission's subcommittees will operate. Chair Ferrer stated that following the public hearing on June 28th, it is expected that subcommittee membership and topics will be able to be finalized. Questions from subcommittees were addressed and discussion ensued.

Public Comment: Robert Brownstein called for the Commission to establish, as their primary goal in amending the charter, the incorporation of the values of equity, accountability and representation. Blair Beekman described equity as a process of providing disadvantaged people the advantages that their advantaged counterparts enjoy, he hoped for public participation in the subcommittee process, and he appreciated the discussion of San José's emergency preparedness in the event of an upcoming natural disaster. Ellina believed equity and inclusion should be prioritized in the charter review process and called for a clear outlining and training on proper commission procedures.

b) Discussion on Charter Review Commission Bylaws.

Commissioner Fuentes, who asked for this item to be placed on the agenda, expressed her thoughts on how the Commission could benefit from establishing its own regulations based on values of inclusion, transparency, and equity. Discussion amongst commissioners followed.

Action: A motion was proposed by Commissioner Fuentes and seconded by Commissioner Segura to explore the drafting of bylaws with the City Clerk and City Attorney and report back with findings at the next Commission meeting.

Action: Commissioner Matsumura proposed a friendly amendment to Commissioner Fuentes' motion for the City Clerk, City Attorney, and any commissioners working on the bylaw request to specifically explore options for responding to and taking public comment before voting, and also how to hear from every commissioner who wishes to speak. The maker of the motion and seconder accepted Commissioner Matsumura's friendly amendment. Commissioner Fuentes' motion, with the addition of Commissioner Matsumura's friendly amendment, passed. (15-5-1; Noes: Marshman, Monley, LeZotte, Robledo, Zhao; Absent: Diep) Commissioners H. Tran, Fuentes, and Vice Chair Johnson volunteered to work with the City Clerk and City Attorney to explore the bylaw request.

Public Comment: Blair Beekman appreciated the considerations to improve the public commenting process. Ellina agreed that taking public comment before voting is inclusive, and offered the suggestions that the Commission return to the next meeting with a draft of bylaws and also for CivicMakers to expand their outreach efforts. Danny agreed with Ellina's comments and supported the idea of creating bylaws for the Commission.

VII. Public Comment/Open Forum

1. Blair Beekman stressed the importance of open public policy and good democratic processes in order to ensure the individual voices of the community are heard.
2. Ellina appreciated public comment being taken prior to a vote by the Commission and also encouraged commissioners to review Section 10 of Boards and Commissions.

VIII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

The next meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2021.

IX. Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 8:57 p.m.