

Baltimore City Charter Review Commission Meeting

December 6, 2023

6:00 PM

Virtual Meeting via WebEx

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Andy Ellis, Benjamin Orr, Emily Levy, Earnest Le District 1, Joshua Harris, Julianne Montes, Julianne Tarver, Matt Stegman, Michael Wells, Kathy Christian, Monica Faulkner, Victor Tervalá, Rev. Kobi Little, Erin O’Keefe, Timothy Goldsby, Ariel Harry Bess, Roger Hartley, Nicolas Blendy

Staff Present: Ben Guthorn, Nina Themelis, Aaron DeGraffenreidt, Richard Krummerich

Members of the Public: Nashona Kess, Anwar Young

Agenda:

1. Call to Order; Attendance – 6:00 PM
2. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2023 – *Circulated prior to meeting*
3. Committee Assignments
4. Schedule of Meetings
5. Public Involvement and Public Hearings
6. Proposed Charter Amendments – to Date
7. Guiding Principles – *See Tab 2 of Introduction Materials Binder*
8. Article 1 – General Provisions
9. Adjournment

Call to Order: 6:10 PM

Victor Tervalá: Introduced Emily Levy, a new commissioner appointed by the Mayor. Commissioner Levy is an associate at the law firm Gallagher Evelius and Jones.

Agenda Item No. 2: Reviewed Meeting Minutes from November 7, 2023 Meeting:

- Unreadiness from Rev. Kobi Little: wants the minutes to note the lack of Latino representation on the Commission and that the required folks will be notified.
- No noted adjournment time because there was no motion to adjourn. We exhausted the agenda and Roberts Rules allows for that to be the adjournment.
- Minutes approved by motion for additional corrections.

Agenda Item No. 3. Committee Assignments

- Staff has made the assignments but all members of the Commission can participate in any committee that they prefer but the assignments are based on their known background. Any discussion or objection. None
- Executive and Administrative Function Committee
 - All the agencies – big part of the Charter, probably half.
 - Kobi little (chair); Arielle Harry-Bess, Nicholas Blendy, Andy Ellis, Monica Faulkner, David Fink, Earnest Le
- Board of Estimates, Finance, Procurement Committee
 - Terrell Boston-Smith (Chair), Joshua Harris, Ben Orr, Erin O’Keefe, Julianne Tarver, Doris Minor Terrell, and John Willis
- Legislative Oversight Committee
 - Victor Tervala (Chair), Kathy Christian, Roger Hartley, Dayvon Love, Julianne Montes de Oca, Matthew Stegman, Emily Levy

Agenda Item No. 4. Schedule of Meetings

- Goal will be 2 per month with acknowledgement that Dec. and Jan. will be difficult to make that work

Agenda Item No. 5. Public Involvement and Public Hearings.

- Charter requires at least one public hearing and by May must have a report.
- Discussion of public involvement in the Committee hearings:
 - Suggestion of 2 minutes maximum per person
 - Suggestion of public email where the public can submit written comment. Staff will facilitate.

Agenda Item No. 6. Proposed Charter Amendments – to Date.

- Charter Amendments currently under consideration in Committee
 - Commission will weigh whether or not to offer its opinion, but first task is to go through the list
 - Guthorn reviews them, advises that they can be found by anyone on the open website legistar

Agenda Item No. 7. Guiding Principles.

- Victor Tervala reviews guiding principles of reviewing and amending the City Charter.

Agenda Item No. 8. Article 1 – General Provisions

- Victor Tervala took Commission through Article of the City Charter making note if the material in the given section is considered “proper” or “improper” charter material per the guiding principles reviewed under Agenda Item No. 7.

Adjournment