

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

December 8, 2021

A Charter Review Commission (CRC) Meeting was held at the Murdock Administration Center, 18500 Murdock Circle, Room B106, Port Charlotte, Florida at 3:00 P.M. on December 8, 2021.

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman William J. Dryburgh.

Roll Call

The following CRC members were present:

William C. Abbatematteo
Patricia W. Aho
Jeffrey K. Anlauf
Donna L. Barrett
Donna C. Peterman
Cherie A. Burnett
Steve A. Drake
William J. Dryburgh

Donald McCormick
Theresa H. Murtha
Richard J. Pitz
Adam James Riley
William B. Schafer
Cyril F. Schrage
Bob White

Alternates

Rob Humpel, 1st Alternate
Suzanne Graham, 2nd Alternate

The following members were absent: James Coalwell, Alternate.

Others present: Robert H. Berntsson, Attorney.

Citizen's present:

William Kitsch, Joy Zimmer, Ted Ehmann, Cindie King, Richard Russell, Debra Russell, Tim Ritchie, David Kesselring, David Kalin, Ralph Barry, and Nadine Barry.

I. Approval of Minutes:

MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD PITZ AND SECONDED BY WILLIAM SCHAFFER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED: 15:0

II. Citizen Input on Agenda Items:

- Richard Russell, Port Charlotte – In favor of single district voting for Commissioners and concerned about the future of water in Charlotte County and the impact of outside agencies that are destructive to our harbor, our livelihood, and our marine life.

- Tim Richie, Punta Gorda Isles – Concerned about water quality and especially Mosaic’s destructive impact.
- William Kitsch, Punta Gorda – Submitted “Right to Clean Water Amendment” proposal and Letter regarding public participation and input suggestions. (attached)
- Ted Ehmann, Murdock – Section 1.3 Municipal Ordinances. Recommend amending with language concerning sustainability.
- Cindie King, Gulf Cove – In favor of election of CRC Members and Board of County Commissioners district residency.
- David Kalin, Charlotte County – Recommends term limits for Commissioners for 3 terms.
- David Kesselring – Recommends clean water amendment, single member district voting, elected CRC members, limitation on the power and authority of the County Attorney and County Administrator, and lower percentage for citizen’s initiatives.

III. Old Business:

a. Sub-committee Reports:

i. Administrative Staff: Chair Barrett reported that the committee met on November 18, 2021 and started reviewing some of the suggestions made by the staff.

ii. Board of County Commissioners: Chair Abbatematteo reported that the next two committee meetings are Dec. 9th and 16th with the five Board of County Commissioners followed by a meeting to discuss the Final Report.

iii. Constitutional Officers: Chair Schafer reported on the issue of enforcement of residency in the Charter that the subcommittee will raise in their Final Report. A discussion ensued between subcommittee members regarding whether to proceed or not with the next meeting date of December 13th to discuss the Final Report. Attorney Rob Berntsson advised that if majority of the committee wanted to meet, then the committee would need to meet.

iv. Other Boards and Agencies: Chair Murtha reported that a Draft Report has been written and the members are seeking comments before finalizing the Report. The Final Report should be ready by the end of the month. Chair Murtha raised a procedural question regarding how the subcommittee reports will be discussed. Chairman Dryburgh laid out the following procedure: Once the reports are submitted, at each CRC meeting one subcommittee will review their report and raise their Charter Recommendations. The CR Commission members will then discuss them. The issues will then go on the Master List (along with items raised by the Public) to be voted upon at the March or April meeting. Attorney Berntsson reminded the group that all reports should be sent to the members prior to the discussion for their advanced review. The CR members will know in advance at which meetings and what reports will be discussed.

IV. New Business:

a. Approval of Big W Law Firm Statement for Services provided: December 1, 2021 Statement for Services in the amount of \$393.75.

MOTION WAS MADE BY DONNA BARRETT AND SECONDED BY DONNA PETERMAN TO APPROVE THE BIG W LAW FIRM'S STATEMENT FOR SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$393.75.

MOTION CARRIED 15:0

Member Donna Barrett commented favorably on the Commendation Letter sent by Chairman Dryburgh to Tommy Scott, Director of Community Services regarding Jill Boyd, Recreation Supervisor (in thanks for her service to the CRC's meeting last month). Ms. Boyd just received the Commissioner's Award for Customer Service and this letter may have had a part in her receiving that Award.

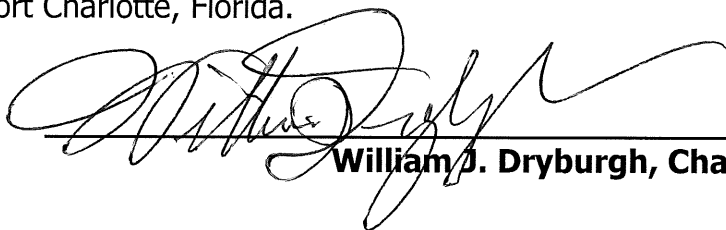
V. Discussion:

Chair Dryburgh invited those subcommittees that needed to meet within their groups to stay and discuss their committee business.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJORN THE MEETING BY CONSENSUS AT 3:45 P.M.

The next meeting will convene on January 12, 2022 at 3 p.m. at the Murdock Administration Center, 18500 Murdock Circle, Room B106, Port Charlotte, Florida.



William J. Dryburgh, Chair

DATE ADOPTED: 1/12/2022