

**Multnomah County Charter Review Committee**

**MINUTES**

November 18, 2015

Multnomah Building

501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Room 315

Portland, OR 97214

Meeting: Charter Review Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Kirsten Leonard, Carol Chesarek, Liz Trojan, Justin Freeman, Keith Mosman, Mark Sturbois, David Robertson, Samantha Alloy, Juan Carlos Ordonez, John Vandermosten, Paul Koch, Victoria Purvine, Michael Cummings, Jeanna Hall, Moses Ross

Members absent: N/A

Staff Present: Marco Circosta, Rhys Scholes, Cate Schneider, Marissa Madrigal

Approved minutes: October 21, 2015 minutes approved

**Introductions and approval of past meeting minutes:** No changes were made to October 21 meeting minutes.

**Review of policies and procedures:** The committee examined the draft Policies and Procedures document. A policy for online communication was established; any online communication will be limited to ask procedural questions and as a way of sharing information and resources provided by outside parties. Online communication will not be a place for discussion or deliberation on proposed Charter Review Committee subjects. A discussion was held regarding committee transparency and how that may be established within the Policies and Procedures document. It was determined that the Charter Review Committee will follow the policies established by the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners. Discussion was brought forth on point seventeen on the Policies and Procedures document. A vote was made to amend the document to state “Approved motions on the changes to the Charter constitute tentative approval of such changes pending approval of the final report to the Multnomah County Commissioners”.

**Received public testimony or submitted written testimony:** Written testimony from Commissioner Shiprack was received and determined to be reviewed at a later portion of this meeting.Fillard Spring-Rhine testified around subject areas that should be reviewed by the committee.

**Background and history of previous Charter Review Committees:** Rhys Scholes presented documents relating to past proposals from previous Charter Review Committees. Documents included past ballot measures brought forth by previous committees and news articles relating to public opinion of ballot measures.

**Discussed subjects for review:** A working list of subjects to review was established by the committee. This list would be a broad initial pass at issues with an understanding of honing the ideas at a later time. The list consisted of items brought to the committee such as an appointed county sheriff, changes to jail administration, a county administrator and the possibility of addressing climate change. Other topic areas mentioned include elected official term limits, the process of an elected official seeking a different elected position, compensation revisions, campaign finance reform, county transparency, the Charter Review Committee appointment process, livability and affordable housing, district boundaries, public safety and health, digital inclusion, early education, job creation, emergency preparedness and transportation funding. A future meeting will give clarity to the scope of the Charter Review Committee. The committee then discussed individuals who they would like to have present. That list included: someone outside of the county addressing the committee’s scope, previous committee members, elected official and department heads, an individual from the Partnership of Safety and Justice, AOC Chairman and individuals from the deputies union.

**Discussed how a work plan will be formed and maintained:** The work plan will be an easily accessible, working document that can track thoughts, findings, and ideas. Potentially having an assigned person to create and maintain a document that will be posted on the Charter Review Committee website. The document can contain meeting dates for subcommittees, possible agenda items for future meeting dates and a timeline of work progress.

**Closing comments:** Closing comments consisted of a brief discussion regarding voter approval. The committee determined not to have a mass exchange of email addresses because the group will not conduct online deliberation. A Yahoo group will be established to discuss meeting dates, add informational resources and procedural issues.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.**