

Baltimore City Charter Review Commission

Meeting of the Whole

Thursday February 15, 2024

6:00 pm

6:05 PM -- Meeting called to order

Opening Remarks – Rev. Little

Today's goal is to handle housekeeping matters. Hopeful to have committee meetings next week, and a presentation from the Council President and Comptroller the week after.

Statement given regarding the resignation of former Commission Chairman Vic Tervalá.

It is generally the case, unless decided otherwise, that when the Chair resigns the Vice Chair becomes the Chair. Rev. Little and Terrell Boston-Smith have decided to move forward as co-chairs.

Vote needed tonight, is to establish a new committee chair for the Legislative and Oversight Committee – which was chaired by Mr. Tervalá also.

Terrell Boston-Smith – 6:08 PM

Looking for direction from the Commission on moving forward. Does not have the capacity to lead the Commission alone so agrees to the Co-Chairmanship moving forward.

Joshua Harris

Should we have to elect a committee chair now? Previously the Chairman of the commission just appointed committee leadership...

Rev. Little

Committee members probably have the best sense of who among them should be Chair.

T.B.S

Summarized the duties/responsibilities of committee chairmanship

Julianne Montes de Oca

On Co-Chairmanship: it can be difficult to make quick decisions when this system exists. Have you both discussed how you would handle those types of situations?

Rev. KL & TBS

Both agree that the priority is moving things along – and have no doubt they will work in a collaborative manner along with the new committee chair. They will meet and determine the most appropriate pathway forward.

Julianne Montes de Oca

Willing to volunteer as chair of the committee if other members do not have the bandwidth. (Commissioners Levy and Christian agree with this move)

Matt Stegman – 6:17 PM

Can the co-chairs speak to the resignation of the previous chairman?

Rev. KL

Summarized previous meeting. Emphasized that its important to continue moving forward.

John Willis

Would like to see a calendar or chart for what the next steps will be going forward. Additionally, we should formally elect the new chair.

Rev. KL – 6:23 PM

Calls vote for JMO to serve as Co-Chair and Chair of Legislative and Oversight Committee. (Approved)

TBS

There should be a memo or document that says exactly when committees are meeting and when the commission as a whole is meeting. Would that be acceptable?

Nicholas Blendy

Move to have a formal meeting calendar (seconded by Commissioner Harry-Bess). Amended to have a calendar adopted one week from today.

Rev. KL – 6:27 PM

Calls vote. (Approved)

Received a request from the Comptroller and Council President to present amendments on Tues. Feb 27th or Thursday Feb 29th – virtual would be fine, but could meet in person. Which date works best for commissioners?

John Willis

Recommends a poll.

Ben Guthorn to send a poll out, requesting responses by Tuesday.

Requesting committees to do a running list of decision points to be shared with Commission at-large.

Andy Ellis

Suggests that once the calendar is made, the committee should set milestone dates regarding when we should agree to amendments – to spread out the workload and not save it all for the end.

Commissioners and Staff give brief remarks

Co-Chairs give brief remarks

Meeting Adjourned – 6:47 PM