

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF FORT BEND

CITY OF RICHMOND



The Charter Review Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas met in on December 17, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Chairman Michael Scherer called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

C. Michael Scherer – Chairman	Wayne Wright – Co-Chairman Absent
Kathy Graeber-Kubelka	Bobby Greenwood
Bobby L. Reyes	Tom Crayton
Karen Bleil	Robert Hodge – Absent
Josh Lockhart - Absent	John Bunk - Absent
Carole Edwards	Alice Bijara - Absent
Rita Cobbin	Jim Klentzman
Verge Greenwood - Absent	

Alternates: Robert Dawson - Absent     Ronnie Landry  
Frank Pena – Absent

Attorney: Betsy Johnson

Chairman Scherer declared the meeting open.

Agenda item A2 to review, discuss and possible action on October 29<sup>th</sup>, November 5<sup>th</sup>, and December 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes. The minutes for each meeting were discussed and voted on individually.

**Minutes 10.29.15:** There was no discussion regarding these minutes. Bobby Greenwood made the motion to approve the October 29, 2015 minutes and Bobby Reyes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve.

**Minutes 11.05.15:** Chairman Scherer reviewed the second page of the minutes and asked the members to recall if the chain of events were as stated in the minutes. Bobby Greenwood remarked, "*That is exactly what happened.*" Kathy Graeber-

Kubelka made the motion to approve the minutes for the November 5, 2015 meeting with Bobby Greenwood seconded the motion. The vote was taken and it was approved unanimously.

**Minutes 12.03.15:** There was no discussion regarding these minutes. Karen Bleil motioned to approve the December 3, 2015 minutes and Bobby Greenwood seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Agenda item A3, the discussion regarding the status of the Petition filed to amend the City Charter. The petition provides for four single member districts with four City Commissioners and a Mayor at Large. This will be a proposed amendment to section 3.01 of the Richmond City Charter. The City Secretary has certified the petition is valid; therefore it will be placed on the ballot for the May 7, 2016 election. There was a brief discussion regarding single member districts.

Agenda item A4, to review, discuss and the possible action regarding any amendments to the Richmond City Charter. Term limits were discussed as well as the length of the terms. This would be an amendment to Article III. Chairman Scherer reviewed the data that had been gathered for 18 cities with similar population size. Out of the 18 cities only four had term limits, eleven cities had two year terms, six had three year terms and one having a four year term.

Richmond citizen and political activist, Tres Davis was present at the meeting and stated he already has enough signatures for the petition regarding term limits to be placed on the ballot. Davis specified he would negotiate with the city and refrain from filing if a mutually agreeable number for term limits could be achieved. Chairman Scherer stated that he did not believe it appropriate for the charter Review Commission to be negotiating proposed amendments with parties who are not members of the commission. Tom Crayton stated the term needs to be longer than two years because the members would serve one year and campaign the remainder of their term. It was declared the commission would not agree to a life time ban after a certain period of serving. After a lengthy discussion, Tom Crayton made the motion for a charter amendment that calls for a three year term with a limit of three terms. A citizen would have to sit out for three years before they can run again for a position. Bobby Greenwood seconded the motion and the vote was eight for the proposed amendment and Chairman Michael Scherer abstained from the vote. Davis stated that he and Carlos Garcia, the circulators of the petition would not file the petition with the City Secretary.

Carol Edwards asked about section 3.16 Investigation. Ms. Edwards's concerns were what constitute "official conduct". City Attorney, Frank Garza stated that "official conduct" is when your personal feelings effect how you vote etc. Chairman Scherer identified that the next meeting will be January 7, 2016 at 5:30 pm due to the holidays during the next two weeks.

There being no further business to be brought before the Commission, Karen Bleil motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. Carol Edwards seconded the motion and the Commission adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
C. Michael Scherer, Chairman

Attest:

  
Terri Vela, City Manager