



City of Atlantic Beach
Agenda
Charter Review Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 26, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.
Commission Chamber
City Hall, 800 Seminole Road

Page(s)

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1.A. Approve minutes of the March 23, 2023 Charter Review Committee meeting. 3 - 6
[03-23-23 CRC - Draft Minutes](#)

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- 3.A. City Attorney re: Charter Amendments
3.B. Sections 4, 5, and 6, and other applicable sections of the Charter
3.C. May meeting topics
3.D. May Meeting City Staff attendance requests

4. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting will be live-streamed and videotaped. The video recording will be posted within four business days on the City's website. To access live or recorded videos, visit www.coab.us/live.

Any person wishing to speak to the Charter Review Committee at this meeting should submit a request prior to public comment. For your convenience, forms for this purpose are available at the entrance to the Commission Chamber.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (904) 200-9790 at least three business days prior to the meeting. .



MINUTES
Charter Review Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 23, 2023 - 6:00 PM
Commission Chamber

Present: Bruce Andrews, District 1308 Member, ESC
Debbie Buckland, Member
Charles "Chip" Drysdale, Member
Kelly Elmore, Member
William "Bill" Gulliford, Chair
Kirk Hansen, Member
Mitchell Reeves, Member
Suzanne Shaughnessy, Vice Chair
Jennifer Lagner, CDB Member & CRC Secretary
Dawn Scott, Member
Steve Swann, City Engineer (CE)
Donald Young, Member

Absent: Ellen Golombek, Member

Also Present: Donna Bartle, City Clerk (CC)

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Gulliford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Secretary Lagner called the roll.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve minutes of the February 16, 2023 Charter Review Committee.

MOTION: Approve minutes of the February 16, 2023 Charter Review Committee meeting.

Motion: Steve Swann
Second: Donald Young

Chairman Gulliford asked if there was any discussion. With no further discussion, Chairman Gulliford called for a vote; all were in favor of minutes approved as submitted. Minutes were approved.

<i>Bruce Andrews</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Debbie Buckland</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Charles "Chip" Drysdale</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Kelly Elmore</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>William "Bill" Gulliford</i>	<i>For</i>

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<i>Kirk Hansen</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Mitchell Reeves</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Suzanne Shaughnessy</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Jennifer Lagner</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Dawn Scott</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Steve Swann (Moved By)</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Donald Young (Seconded By)</i>	<i>For</i>

Motion passed 12 to 0.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Gulliford explained the process for public comment and opened the Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors.

Secretary Jennifer Lagner called each speaker to the podium.

Steve Piscitelli shared as a member of Mayor's Council on Health and Well-Being, suggested the CRC to hold a meeting(s) at the Gail Baker Center and to review the report the Council submitted to commission, specifically the March and April meetings focused on transportation and senior programming including affordable housing.

Michael Hoffmann spoke of the question of electoral fairness in Atlantic Beach; that 3 votes of the Commission does not always reflect the opinion of the electorate. He stated we do not have fair elections in AB because we have at large election, and there is a dilution of voting specifically on the other side of town.

3. PRESENTATION

A. Presentation and discussion led by Dr. Georgette Dumont on the CRC's important role in framing the future of Atlantic Beach.

DCM Hogencamp introduced Dr. Dumont to the CRC. She reviewed the importance of the recommendations the CRC will make to the Commission and to do an environmental scan when making recommendations. Dr. Dumont provided various examples.

Member Swann asked how long for review; Dr. Dumont articulated 10 years is state of FL and should be at a constant interval, taking account elections so as to have different people involved. Member Elmore shared there should be time between reviews so the charter should stand up, that the framework changed is with thought and not often. Member Shaughnessy stated it appears changes to charter originate with committee and asked if the changes can occur from the Commission.

Discussion ensued regarding whether the Atlantic Beach City Commission had the authority to change the Charter based on Ordinance. Member Steve Swann clarified the Commission can't change the Charter but can propose changes to the Charter; it has to go back to the citizens. Further discussion of whether recommendations presented by a CRC can be brought forth at other times and no time limit on when recommendations are used. Member Andrews mentioned the prior Commission had initiated a change 5-6 years ago to

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elections with plurality; prior Commission initiated it and CA at the time interpreted the Commission had power to make changes. Chairman Gulliford stated the point of that section of the charter was for the citizens to make recommendations, Dr. Dumont stated must be very specific in the charter.

Chairman Gulliford requested the question to be asked of CA Gabriel to clarify and could be topic of committee to discuss based on the response from CA Gabriel.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Meeting Schedule, Timeline, Agendas, etc.

A general discussion ensued regarding meetings to be for up to two hours and the agenda will include the articles and sections to be discussed for the next meeting. The CRC would start at the beginning of the Charter and review each item and section, but will withhold discussion for what is not contained in the Charter and bring up after existing sections are reviewed.

The amount of time for each section time will be estimated due to the unknown type of discussion. Member Reeves suggested we get the minutes and agenda uploaded on the website as soon as possible. Meetings will be from 6pm– 8pm.

Chairman Gulliford stated he would like as much citizen participation as possible. Member Buckland asked what the procedure was to add items to the agenda and CRC can contact Chairman Gulliford without discussion of the agenda item.

Chairman Gulliford requested the CRC meetings be added to newsletters to increase citizen participation.

Member Shaughnessy thanked City Clerk Bartle for the historical documents provided to current CRC.

B. Discussion on Charter

No discussion regarding Article I, Section 1. Discussion regarding Article I Section 2 Reaffirmation of the incorporation of City of Atlantic Beach and confirming the boundaries of Atlantic Beach. Member Steve Swann volunteered to get the information for the next meeting.

Member Young asked about annexation and the process. Member Reeves confirmed the City can't solicit annexation; the City of Jacksonville has to approach City. Member Andrews would like to discuss the process for annexation when CRC gets to that section of the Charter.

Article I Section 3 Form of Government Member Elmore shared he feels we are in agreement that there are no changes in this section. Chairman Gulliford reminded the CRC that any member can bring back any section that has been discussed to ensure all

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are heard. Member Elmore suggested the CRC be prepared in reading the sections moving forward.

Florida Statute 166.031 was read by Jack Rowan, an interested person. He states it pertains to charter amendments and discussion ensued that the commission can put things on without CRC recommending because current charter does not state. Need to check that it is not in conflict with Florida State statute.

Article I Section 4 General Powers did not have any further discussion. Article II Section 5 Number of commissioners; selection; term brought forth historical discussion as to district representation, including the positives and negatives for not having it.

For the April meeting, the Chair will entertain a motion relative to change put forth in Section 5 then move on to Section 6.

C. Discussion on April agenda topics

Section 5 and Section 6 will be discussed at the April meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Chair Gulliford declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Attest:

Jennifer Lagner, Secretary

William Gulliford, Chair

Date Approved: _____

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