



Alachua County Charter Review Commission

Meeting Minutes - Thursday, October 21, 2009

Commission Members

Robert Ackerman

Robert Brinkman

DJ Ferguson

Mitch Glaeser, Vice Chair

Armando R. Grundy-
Gomes

J. K. Irby, Chair

Joseph W. Little

AuBroncee S. Martin

John Martin

Bill Richards

Jim Stringfellow

Rod Tuttle

Lura W. Williams Martin

Ashley Wood

Guy York

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Charter Review
Commission
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CRC Members Present: Robert Ackerman, Robert Brinkman, D.J. Ferguson, Mitch Glaeser, Armando Grundy-Gomes, J.K. Irby, Joseph Little, Aubroncee Martin, John Martin, James Stringfellow, Rod Tuttle, Ashley Wood, Guy York

CRC Members Absent: Lura Williams Martin, Bill Richards

Among Others Present: County Manager Randall H. Reid, Advisory Board Coordinator Mary Lowry, Assistant City Manager Paul Folkers.

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was discussed and adopted as submitted with the addition of item 4.d: Distribution of memo by Joe Little titled "Alachua County Charter Review Commission".

2. Approval of Minutes of September 24, 2009

Joe Little moved that the September 24, 2009, minutes be accepted as presented with one correction: Mr. Wood's name was misspelled. The motion was agreed to.

3. Announcements

The Chair reported that, per Commission instructions that:

a. He had written all municipalities, the constitutional officers, and the school board regarding the fact that the CRC is in the process of reviewing the County Charter to recommend changes and encouraged their participation.

b. He had written the five prospective attorneys requesting their proposal for professional legal service.

c. The CRC web site is ready to be launched. Note: The web site was discussed and the consensus of the CRC was that the web site should include biographic information regarding the CRC members.

d. Joe Little had provided the Commission a paper regarding charter government and the chair recommended it to all members.

4. Meeting Rules & Procedures

Robert Brinkman moved the procedures as presented except that the commission's deliberations would be pursuant to The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (Sturgis). A general discussion followed regarding the proposed procedures.

Mitch Glaeser moved to amend the motion and replace "The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (Sturgis)" with Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure. The amendment was agreed to.

The main motion as amended was discussed and passed unanimously.

5. Work Plan:

The chair provided members with a work plan to be used only as a guide or roadmap for future commission work. After discussion, the commission requested that the chair develop a work plan with more detail including dates to be used as a planning tool by the commission. Without objection, the chair indicated that he and county staff would develop a more detailed plan and present it at the next meeting.

6. Consideration of Legal Counsel Proposals

The chair reported that four law firms had responded to the CRC's invitation to provide a proposal for professional legal counsel for the CRC. The chair indicated that the four proposals were provided to members as part of their agenda packet and all members indicated that they had received the information. It was generally agreed that all four were outstanding proposals and that we were fortunate to have such qualified firms to choose from. The members were then asked to rank the proposals.

Ashley Wood moved that the chair open negotiations with the top ranked firm to provide legal counsel to the commission and that should the chair and top ranked firm fail to come to terms, the chair would then move to the second ranked firm and open negotiations with that firm. (This process would continue until a contract was secured).

After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Charter Amendment Proposals Received

The chair announced that six proposals have been received. Each proposal has been assigned a tracking number. Copies of the proposals along with a listing of the proposals were or have been provided to the members.

8. Future Meetings

The chair announced that the next meeting of the CRC would be Monday, November 16, 2009. In addition, no meeting is scheduled for December.

9. Outreach

The commission discussed at length what the CRC's public outreach effort should be.

Following the discussion, Armando Grundy-Gomes moved:

- i. That the CRC develop "Hot Teams" made up of approximately three members each and that the Hot teams make presentations to the several municipalities and the Board of County Commissioners respectively.
- ii. That the members may make presentations to civic clubs and community organizations and that a list all presentations be maintained by staff.
- iii. That the chair work with the County Communications Office to publicize the CRC and the fact that all citizens are welcome to provide proposals or information for CRC consideration.

During the discussion, members were reminded that presentations may fall under the open meetings law whenever two or more members attended a presentation. It was agreed that all such meetings must be properly advertised.

After further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

10. Adjournment:

Next meeting: Monday, November 16, 2009, 5:30 PM, Grace Knight Conference Room

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.