

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH

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CITY CHARTER REVIEW BOARD Minutes of September 2, 2003 Meeting

Board Members in attendance:

Chairman Steve Zack
Vice-Chair Jonathan Beloff
Ricky Arriola
Larry Herrup
Abraham Laeser

Board Liaison Personnel

Jean Olin, Deputy City Attorney
Robert E. Parcher, City Clerk
Liliam R. Hatfield, Secretary to City Clerk

Meeting called to order at 4:40 p.m.

Roll call. Absent: Members Diaz and Gelber

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 10 AND JULY 22, 2003

ACTION: Motion made by Vice-Chair Beloff; seconded by Member Herrup to approve the minutes of June 10, 2003. Vote: 4-3.

ACTION: Motion made by Vice-Chair Beloff; seconded by Chairman Zack to approve the minutes of July 22, 2003. Vote: 4-3.

Chairman Zack informed the Board Members that a final report of items not voted on by the City Commission would be presented at a later date.

II. ISSUES FOR DELIBERATION:

a. Bill of Rights

Discussion held. Member Herrup suggested including language stating that citizens should be treated with dignity and courtesy as part of the City Manager's Customer Service Plan. Motion was made by Member Herrup to make recommendation to the City Commission of adding language to the City's Mission Statement; seconded by Vice-Chair Beloff. No vote taken. Member Arriola suggested adding language in the Charter. This proposal will be presented at future meetings.

b. Form of Government/Commission Powers

Item deferred indefinitely. Motion made by Vice-Chair Beloff; seconded by Member Arriola. Vote: 5-2. Absent: Members Diaz and Gelber.

c. Election Reform

Item deferred until more input on the subject is obtained from Ms. Constance Kaplan, new Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections, who will meet with different municipalities to obtain consensus regarding uniform municipalities elections.

d. Zoning Reform

Item deferred. Motion made by Vice-Chair Beloff to hold a televised public meeting in the Commission Chambers, November 6, 2003, to discuss Charter Sections 1.03 (b) and 1.03 (c); seconded by Member Herrup. Vote: 5-2. Absent: Members Diaz and Gelber. Chairman Zack requested Jorge Gomez, Planning Director, to make a presentation of waterfront properties in the City at the meeting.

e. City Manager/Administrative Changes/City of Miami Beach Related Special Acts

1. Department Directors Not Confirmed By Commission (Sec. 4.02 (b)) – Item not reached.
2. Related Special Acts – Art IV. Civil Service System (Sec. 9)
3. Related Special Acts – Art. IV. Personnel Board (Sec. 12)
4. Related Special Acts – Art. V. Health Plan for city officers & employees

Jorge Gonzalez, City Manager, explained that a Hearing Examiner or a Special Master should be in place, in lieu of the Personnel Board, to provide a venue and provide all employees with effective tools from a labor management perspective. His recommendation is not to do away with the Personnel Board but do away with the aspect of disciplinary issue through collective bargaining agreement and Special Master.

Jean Olin, Deputy City Attorney, stated that the City is not required to submit to the voters those Related Special Acts issues, which are subject to collective bargaining; although the City Commission may choose to submit these matters to public vote, legally, matters collectively bargained are not required to be approved by the voters.

Pamela Terranova, Esq. representing City Unions, (CWA) made a presentation regarding the differences between the existing system and the proposed system. **(See Flow Chart attached).**

Chairman Zack explained that the new proposal would require a system that is cost neutral, similar to the existing system as presented by Ms. Terranova, and a Hearing Examiner be selected on this matter, in a way that makes both parties come to an agreement, keeping in mind consistency and fairness.

Member Herrup requested the City Manager's Office to quantify and explain how to recommend this to the City Commission with an appeal provision. Additionally he requested to see what other municipalities similar in size to Miami Beach are doing. He requested to have someone from Miami-Dade County available to explain the process they have in place and review costs.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There was a good and welfare where the public was provided an opportunity to speak.

Joe Asmundsson spoke.

Jorge Gonzalez, City Manager, spoke.

Joseph Fisher, CWA representative, spoke.

Kelly Cohen, Esq. explained the proposed system.

Mike Burke spoke.

Pamela Terranova, Esq. spoke.

Richard McKinnon, CWA Local 3178 President, spoke.

Rosalie Pincus, Chairwoman of the Personnel Board, spoke.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

The next public meeting was scheduled for November 6, 2003 to discuss Zoning Reform issues only.

REP:JO/lh

Attachment: Sign-In Sheet
Flow Chart