

**CHARTER REVISION BOARD MINUTES  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
April 1, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m. on the above date by Chairman Ketcham in the City Commission Meeting Room of City Hall.

Roll call showed:

Present: Mark E. Ketcham, Chair  
Alain Jean  
Maria Del Rosario Lescano

Also Present: Jonda K. Joseph, City Clerk  
Harry A. Stewart, City Attorney

Absent: Judy Stern  
E. Clay Shaw

**1. Approve minutes – March 4, 2010**

**Motion** made by Ms. Lescano and seconded by Mr. Jean to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2010 meeting as submitted. Roll call showed: YEAS: Members Jean, Lescano and Chairman Ketcham. NAYS: None.

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**2. Discuss any amendment to Charter suggested by Board members**

An ordinance of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, amending the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, providing for the sale of real property for affordable housing or economic development purposes; providing for approval by the electors; and providing for severability, repeal of conflicting ordinance provisions and an effective date

The City Attorney noted that the entire Section 8.22 should be underlined as it is an addition.

**Motion** made by Ms. Lescano and seconded by Mr. Jean directing the City Attorney to send the above described ordinance to the City Commission for approval. Roll call showed: YEAS: Members Jean, Lescano and Stern and Chairman Ketcham. NAYS: None.

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The City Clerk noted that in response to the board's request, the Commission has set a joint workshop date of May 4, 2010, noon, if acceptable to the board. There was no objection.

**3. Public input**

Richard Mancuso, Fort Lauderdale resident, referred to a list of charter issues he previously submitted and provided a revised list. A copy of the list is attached. He highlighted some of the items.

In response to Mr. Jean's question, Mr. Mancuso envisioned the public safety director as a professional over police and fire rescue. It would not be a political appointment but rather qualifications and experience in law enforcement or public safety.

In response to Mr. Jean's question, the City Attorney explained because of special acts that apply to Broward County, if the City changed commission terms to four years with an election in September or November, there would not be a primary. The top vote getter would win. He went on to note a decision would be needed as to whether the terms should be staggered. There would be a number of provisions of the charter that would have to be amended. As to the terms of the currently seated Commission, they have a constitutional right to the office for the term that they ran, so it could not be shortened. Terms would need to be extended for an extra year to call for the election, which has been done. In further response as to increasing the contribution limit, the City Attorney advised it could be accomplished by ordinance. In regard to the 527 organizations, there was litigation with the State and their attempt to limit electioneering communications organizations, which the State lost. Consequently he did not think there is anything that could be done at the local level with respect to the 527 organizations.

**4. Issues for future agendas**

Chairman Ketcham noted the next meeting, May 6, would be the last meeting where there would be enough time for the board to direct the City Attorney to draft an ordinance to send to the Commission.

**5. Old business**

**6. New business**

There being no other matters to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

## **CHARTER ISSUES**

### **MISSION**

Respectfully submitted by Richard Mancuso, April 1, 2010

*PROVIDED TO CHARTER BO. APR 1, 2010*

**Require City to develop a mission statement, evaluate adherence and revise routinely.**

### **ORGANIZATION**

#### **1) Public Safety**

- A) Create position of Public Safety Director that reports directly to Commission; **OR**
- B) Have the Police and Fire Chiefs:
  - a) Report directly to Commission, just as the City Clerk, City Attorney, and City Auditor.
  - b) Meet minimum professional requirements for education, accreditation and experience.
  - c) Hire/fire own personnel.
  - d) Develop departmental budget; **AND**
- C) Eliminate Assistant City Manager position in charge of public safety.

#### **2) Create position of Ombudsman**

- Safe haven for employees and citizens.
- Report to Commission **OR** place under City Attorney, if appropriate.

#### **3) Create an Ethics Advisory Board.**

### **MANAGEMENT**

#### **1) Performance Reviews -**

- a) Require annual performance reviews of all appointed employees/Executive Officers should be done "in the sunshine", at a noticed public meeting.
- b) Create a standardized evaluation form.

#### **2) Vote of Confidence -** Citizens should have the right, via a qualified petition process, to require that the City Commission take a formal "vote of confidence" on any appointed employee/Executive Officers.

#### **3) Require Commission notification and review of management contracts. (9)**

### **PERFORMANCE**

#### **1) Require Sunset Rules** for positions (including budgeted, vacant and frozen), programs, committees and boards. (6)

### **COMMISSION**

#### **1) Review and strengthen residency requirements (at least a year in district) to run for office and serve as Commissioner. (3)**

#### **2) Election/term of office options**

- a) Length - **4 year**
- b) Cycle - **Non-Presidential even year cycle**
- c) Term limits - **Two terms (4)**

#### **3) Election Reform – consider:**

- Limit on amount spent on campaign
- Hasten full disclosure for political advertising and 527's. (7)

#### **4) Define effective date for resignation. (8)**

#### **5) Clarify re-election/term limit rules. (9)**

### **GOVERNMENT FINANCE**

#### **1) Limits on annual government growth. (Providing override for emergencies, revenue loss, annexation, etc.)**

#### **2) Enterprise Funds -** Define if/when funds may be transferred to General Fund and the requirements for repayment. (5)

#### **3) Create position like Inspector General/GAO OR expand City Auditor Department's functions. (9)**

### **CHARTER REVISION BOARD**

- City Auditor should be added to Charter Revision Board
- Director of Finance still a member or replaced by City Auditor?

### **CITIZENS 1) Establish a Citizen Bill of Rights.**