I. Call To Order

With a quorum present, the regular meeting of the Charter Review Commission was called to order by Chair Thomaides at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 2021.

II. Roll Call

Present:  7 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey, Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Sambrano, Commissioner Sparks, and Commissioner Taylor

Absent:  0

Others Present:  2 - Lisa Marie Coppolatta. Roland Saucedo arrived at 5:50 p.m.

III. 30 Minute Citizen Comment Period

Lisa Marie Coppolatta expressed concern with low citizen participation at Charter meetings and especially with single member districts being an item of discussion tonight. She also stated concerns with board members not being visible during virtual meetings, the impact of implementing single member districts, and her having to undergo filing Open Records Requests for virtual meeting recordings.

1. Consider approval, by motion, of the April 12, 2021 regular meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mayhew, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

For:  7 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey, Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Sambrano, Commissioner Sparks, and Commissioner Taylor

Against:  0

2. Review, discuss, and take action, as appropriate, on amending item (b) of Sec. 3.01 – Number, selection and term, under Article III – The City Council.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sambrano, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to amend item (b) to read as follows: “The Mayor and two council members shall be elected from the city at large, while the other four council members are to be elected from four different districts, labeled 1, 2, 3, and 4, which shall be drawn by ordinance and shall be nearly equal in population. The boundaries of the districts shall be
determined, reexamined, redetermined, by ordinance, where appropriate following each succeeding federal decennial census, or at other times where substantial variances in the number and make up of the population of districts have occurred, taking into consideration annexations, deannexations, shifts in populations, and other criteria established by law. On any annexations, the city council shall designate the annexed area to be a part of the districts to which it is contiguous.” The motion failed by the following vote:

For: 3 - Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Sambrano, and Commissioner Taylor

Against: 4 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Kelsey, Commissioner Mayhew, and Commissioner Sparks

A motion was made by Commissioner Sparks, seconded by Commissioner Kelsey, in submitting Charter’s final report to the City Council, that the Commission requests that the Council take appropriate actions to study a possible transition to single member districts, either in whole or in part, with appropriate levels of community engagement and appropriate professional expertise as deemed necessary to inform a future consideration of a Charter review amendment in time for a 2024 election. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey, Commissioner Sambrano, Commissioner Sparks, and Commissioner Taylor

Against: 1 - Commissioner Mayhew

3. Review, discuss, and take action, as appropriate, on amending item (c) of Sec. 3.01 to determine when term limits for Mayor should go into effect and to determine the waiting period for running for Mayor after two consecutive, four-year terms are served.

A motion was made by Chair Thomaides, seconded by Commissioner Kelsey, to amend item (c) to clarify the commencement of three-year terms for council members, which would read as follows: “The council member shall be eligible to serve three consecutive terms, beginning at the election of council members to be held in November of 2022.” The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey, Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Sambrano, Commissioner Sparks, and Commissioner Taylor

Against: 0

A motion was made by Chair Thomaides, seconded by Commissioner Kelsey, to amend item (c) to clarify a council member’s eligibility to run for the office of mayor, which would read as follows: “After serving three consecutive terms, a council member shall not be eligible to run for any city council position, other than mayor, for a period of three years.” The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey, Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Sambrano, Commissioner Sparks, and Commissioner Taylor
Against: 0

4. Discuss and consider the final report to City Council from the Charter Review Commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kelsey, seconded by Commissioner Mayhew, to approve the Commission's final report to be submitted to Council with the additions recommended during tonight’s meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Chair Thomaides, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Kelsey, Commissioner Mayhew, Commissioner Sambrano, Commissioner Sparks, and Commissioner Taylor

Against: 0

IV. Discussion and Recommendations for Future Agenda Items.

This item was not discussed, as it was unnecessary.

V. Question and Answer Session with Press and Public.

Lisa Marie Coppoletta asked the following questions:

1. When did Commissioner Garcia show up for a council meeting in regards to a roundabout being placed on Hunter Road?

2. Why has Commissioner Garcia not been visible during the Commission’s virtual meetings?

3. Why Commissioner Garcia has not raised issues at public hearings?

4. Has Commissioner Garcia deduced the cost of implementing single member districts?

(Roland Saucedo left at 7:05 p.m.)

VI. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of the Charter Review Commission meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Michael Cosentino, Staff Liaison

John Thomaides, Chair