

Charter Revision Commission

Minutes January 5, 2006

Chairman Arthur called the meeting to order at 8:05 am. The Clerk called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

Chairman Arthur announced that the Scope and form of Government Committee and the Administration and Legislature Committee will prepare a report within the next thirty days discussing the alternative forms of government. Mr. Arthur suggested that the report be discussed at a public hearing to solicit public input on the various forms of government discussed therein. After public comment, the full Commission will consider the report and public input and make a final decision regarding the form of government to be recommended in the final commission report to the Legislature. The target date for the joint report is February 2, 2006.

The Fiscal Affairs Committee reported that they continue to meet on a weekly basis examining the current charter and code on a section by section basis. The committee is keeping a decision log which is available from the Clerk. The committee is looking at drafting language which will require the maintenance of a fund balance. Budget adoption procedures are being discussed including the strengthening of language which would prevent the adoption of last minute amendments by the Legislature. The committee is also considering alternatives regarding the declaration of deficiencies and other measures which might strengthen the role of the Office of the Comptroller. The committee is also dismantling the old Department of Finance and dispersing its remaining responsibilities to the appropriate departments. On January 11th, the committee will hear from Mr. Charles Rech, consultant on the SAP project. Mr. Dave Smith, County Manager of Maricopa County will do a conference call with the full Commission on January 19, 2006 at 9:00 am.

Chairman Arthur acknowledged the presence of Chair-elect Lynn Marinelli and Legislators Kathy Konst, Cynthia Locklear and Michele Iannello. Chairman Arthur again reminded Commissioners to make contact with the Legislators from their respective districts and give them an update on the work of the Commission and solicit their involvement and input.

The Human Services Committee will meet on January 9th with the Commissioner of Social Services to hear about the Blueprint for Change and its implementation by the department. In addition, they will hear the department's recommendations for changes to the charter. All minutes of the committee are available in electronic format from the Clerk. Commissioner Rice reported that the committee will next meet with representatives from ECC to discuss their recommendations for changes to the charter.

Chairman Arthur reminded Commissioners that they had all received letters from ECC expressing their concerns about the charter. The Chairman encouraged Commissioners to share their thoughts with Commissioner Rice and her committee members so that those concerns could be addressed in committee discussion with ECC representatives.

Chairman Arthur also requested that the ECC meeting be held at County Hall.

Commissioner Rice agreed with Mr. Arthur's suggestion and the meeting will be held on January 23, 2006 at 8:00 am. Commissioner Rice requested that a representative of the Administration and Legislature Committee attend her committee's meeting with the Department of Social services because of possible overlap in jurisdiction. Commissioner Magavern agreed to be present.

Chairman Arthur requested that the County Attorney provided that commission with any language necessary for inclusion in the charter as a result of the recent court ruling in the ECMCC case. Mr. Rubin agreed to review the matter and provide the commission with language if any language is necessary.

Commissioner Flaherty reported that the Public Safety Committee will meet with District Attorney Frank Clark (today), Commissioner of Probation George Alexander on January 12th and Commissioner Kevin Comerford on January 19th. It is anticipated that representatives from the Chief of Police Association will meet with the committee on the 19th as well. The committee still has to schedule meetings with Sheriff Howard and Deputy Mike Summers of the Sheriff Department PBA.

Chairman Arthur reminded the Commissioners of the January 19th conference call with Mr. Dave Smith. Mr. Arthur announced that there will be a meeting of committee chairs immediately upon adjournment in the Minority Caucus Room.

Commissioner Lillis made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Duquin. The motion was approved by all present.