

## MINUTES OF MEETING

### Committee on Administration and Legislature

May 11, 2006

The Charter Revision Commission's Committee on Administration and Legislature ("A&L") met in a meeting room of the County Legislature at 8:00 a.m. on May 11, 2006. Present were Committee members, John Maggiore, Vice- Chair (A&L), David Comerford, Michael Risman and James Magavern, Chair (A&L). Also present were Hank Bromley, Commission research analyst, Brian White, Assistant County Attorney, and John Davis, legislative clerk.

Mr. Maggiore led a discussion, with Mr. Magavern abstaining, of a draft report in response to a resolution of the County Legislature in relation to an Erie County Counsel, Consultant and Lobbyist Responsibility Law. Mr. Maggiore will revise his draft report in accordance with the discussion and transmit it to Mr. Davis to be clocked in for consideration at the Commission meeting on May 24.

Mr. Maggiore's draft report on reapportionment, proportional representation and non-partisan elections was approved. He will transmit it to Mr. Davis to be clocked in for consideration at the Commission meeting on May 24.

The Committee discussed Mr. Maggiore's draft report on qualifications of appointed department heads and deputies. Mr. Maggiore will re-draft the report to refer to Commissioner Greenan's memorandum, emphasize that if the power to appoint department heads is vested in a professional county manager there will be little or no need to prescribe qualifications in the Charter for department heads, and note that qualifications should allow for an equivalent combination of formal education and experience. He will then e-mail the revised draft to Committee members for comment before transmitting it to Mr. Davis to be clocked in for consideration at the Commission meeting on May 24.

In view of the communication from ten Legislators declining to respond to the Questionnaire prepared by Mr. Bromley, the Committee determined not to pursue the subjects of part-time v. full-time Legislators, district offices and staffing for the County Legislature.

In view of the lack of response to Chairman Arthur's letter to the Administration and the Legislature regarding the status of boards and commissions, the Committee determined not to pursue an attempt to eliminate references in the Charter and Administrative Code to defunct boards and commissions. It was noted, however, that several such bodies will be dealt with by other committees.

The draft report and charter amendment prepared by Mr. Magavern to provide for public notice and hearings on proposed local laws prior to adoption by the County Legislature was approved. Mr. Magavern will transmit it, with proposed Charter language, to Mr. Davis to be clocked in for consideration at the Commission meeting on May 24.

The proposed Charter amendment restricting political solicitation prepared by Mr. Magavern was approved. Mr. Magavern will add a brief explanatory note and transmit it to Mr. Davis to be clocked in for consideration at the meeting of the Commission on May 24.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.