

Howard County Charter Review Commission
APPROVED MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Time: 7:00 pm.

Place: Gary Arthur Center, Glenwood, Public Hearing

Commission Members in attendance:

- Donna Richardson
- Michael Davis
- Sharon Ahn
 - Cindy Ardinger
 - Regina Clay
- Thomas Coale
- Edward Cochran
- Charles Feaga
 - Alice Giles
- Yvonne Howard
- Steve Hunt
- Sang Oh
- Andrew Stack
 - Joshua Tzucker
- James Walsh

- Ms. Richardson opened the meeting.
- The public was asked to sign in. Ms. Richardson explained that individuals would receive three minutes and individuals speaking for a group would receive 5 minutes
- Alison Carney with League of Women Voters (provided written testimony)
- Loretta Shields testified against increasing the number of council members; should increase staff if there is concern about addressing constituent issues; keep position as part-time/citizen legislator.
- Angie Beltram testified against increasing the number of signatures required for referenda; validation of signatures for referenda should be clarified;
- Russ Swatek testified on behalf of TAG (Tax-payers Against Giveaways) against increasing the number of signatures for referenda; should reduce the percent to 3% of the voters at the last gubernatorial election; supports using a percentage of the vote rather than a specific number

- Susan Gray testified against using a percentage; supports predictability by having a specific number of signatures.