

Howard County Charter Review Commission

APPROVED MINUTES

Date: Thursday, August 25, 2011

Time: 9:03 a.m.

Place: Columbia Room, George Howard Building

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.
- Members unanimously approved the minutes.
- Reviewed chart to finalize for public input during public hearings
 - Removed §202(b)(3) & 302(b)(3) adding or replacing moral turpitude with felony
 - Removed §202(c) asking if term limits should continue?
 - Removed adding “political boundary” to district description in §202(f)(1)
 - Added to section §611 that recommendations were provided by Finance Department
 - Removed §1001 from discussion of number of signatures required for referendum
 - Add Council’s request to change the posting of emergency legislation to 12 hours rather than 4 hours as required in §209(d)
- Council Member Fox spoke with the Commission

- Requested the Commission consider extending the life of legislation to 125 days rather than 65 days by amending §209(h)
 - There have been times when, due to complex issues, more time would have allowed the Council flexibility in addressing issues
- Requested the Commission to consider adding a provision that would require a supermajority vote to raise taxes
- Suggested that a population threshold should be considered to add more council members
- Next meetings were set for October 13th and October 27th
- Meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.