

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

MARCH 15, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Thomas P. Fabricio

Cynthia Guerra

Suzanne Gunzburger

Marilyn Leto

Thomas McDonald

Lori Moseley

Grant Smith

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Cynthia Busch

Larry Davis

David DiPietro

H. Collins Forman, Jr.

Roslyn Greenberg

James Gray Kane

Burnadette Norris-Weeks

Carlos J. Reyes

Suzette A. Maylor

Lori Moseley

Monica Navarro

Eugene Pettis

Joseph Wells

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Also Present:

Sam Goren, Esquire, Goren Cherof Doody & Ezrol, PA,
Counsel

Carlos Verney, Executive Director

Niki Donner, Assistant Executive Director

Sofia Gan, Administrative Staff, Charter Review
Commission

Scott Andron, Broward County Attorney's Office

Jodie Breece, Broward County Office of the Inspector
General

Kathy Berg

Sarah Leonardi

Jack McClusky

Ryann Greenberg

Nancy Cavender, The Laws Group

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

A public meeting of the Broward County Charter Review Commission was held at the City of Pembroke Pines City Commission Chambers, 601 City Center Way, Pembroke Pines, Florida, on March 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

(The following is a near-verbatim transcript of the meeting.)

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

MR. MCDONALD: Could I have a roll call, please?

MINUTES SECRETARY: Cynthia Busch.

Larry Davis

David DiPietro.

Thomas P. Fabricio.

MR. FABRICIO: Here.

MINUTES SECRETARY: H. Collins Forman, Jr.

Roslyn Greenberg.

Cynthia Guerra.

Suzanne Gunzburger, Vice Chair.

MS. GUNZBURGER: Present.

MINUTES SECRETARY: James Gray Kane.

Marilyn Leto.

MS. LETO: Here.

MINUTES SECRETARY: Suzette A. Maylor.

Lori Moseley.

Monica Navarro.

Burnadette Norris-Weeks.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Eugene Pettis.

Carlos J. Reyes.

Grant Smith.

MR. SMITH: Here.

MINUTES SECRETARY: Joseph Wells.

Thomas McDonald, Chair.

MR. MCDONALD: Here.

AGENDA ITEM II - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MR. MCDONALD: Let's stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, please.

(PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.)

AGENDA ITEM III - INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC HEARING FORMAT - CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION CHAIR - THOMAS MCDONALD

MR. MCDONALD: Good evening. As Chair of the Broward County Charter Review Commission, I'd like to welcome you to one of our five Public Hearings being conducted by the Charter Review.

This hearing is an opportunity for the CRC members

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

to receive input from the public on the proposed amendments to the Broward County Charter that will appear on the general election ballot in November of 2018.

In a moment, our general counsel will read the title of each of the resolutions into the record, which will be followed by a brief explanation of the proposed Charter amendments by our Executive Director, Carlos Verney.

In accordance with the CRC rules, each of these resolutions was approved by an affirmative vote of at least 13 of the 19 CRC members.

Once each of the resolutions has been read into the record, I'll open the meeting to the public comments.

Members of the public are welcome to speak on any of the resolutions that have been adopted by the CRC or on any other matter which they would like the CRC to consider.

Please limit your comments to three minutes.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Note that tonight's hearing is not a special meeting, and no formal action will be taken this evening.

The CRC will conduct a final meeting in early April at the conclusion of all the Public Hearings -- there's two more after this -- to address any final businesses before formally transmitting our proposals to the County Commission.

Thank you.

At this time, we'll start the meeting with Sam.

You want to --

AGENDA ITEM IV - CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION RESOLUTIONS

- READ TITLE OF RESOLUTIONS INTO THE RECORD

**(CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION GENERAL COUNSEL - DAVID
TOLCES)**

- BRIEF EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS

**(CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - CARLOS
A. VERNEY)**

MR. GOREN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

If you like, I'll read CRC Resolution Number 2018-002. May I proceed, Mr. Chair?

MR. MCDONALD: Sure.

MR. GOREN: Thank you.

For the record, this is a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed amendment to Section 10.01 of the Charter of Broward County, Florida, entitled Broward County Office of Inspector General; providing for the Inspector General's discretion as to whether to commence an investigation if good cause exists that an entity or person over whom the Inspector General has authority has engaged in misconduct or gross mismanagement; providing for presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and re-letter articles and

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

sections in order to conform the amendments to the Charter; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would replace the word shall with may, to provide for the Inspector General's discretion as to whether to commence an investigation if good cause exists that an entity or person over whom the Inspector General has authority has engaged in misconduct or gross mismanagement.

MR. MCDONALD: Sam? That was it.

MR. GOREN: That was it?

MR. MCDONALD: Yeah, read the next one.

MR. GOREN: Okay, happy to. Got your seat belt on? Okay.

For the record, CRC Resolution Number 2018-003 is a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed amendment to Section 8.05 of the Charter of Broward County, Florida entitled Broward County Planning Council Powers and Function;

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

providing for revisions to administration of Planning Council's duties by providing for the Zoning Glossary to be contained in the County Land Use Plan, and at least one Planning Council Public Hearing for Land Use Plan amendments; providing for presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendments to the Charter; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would include the Zoning Glossary within Broward County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan and require at least one Planning Council Public Hearing to consider Land Use Plan amendments.

MR. GOREN: Thank you, Mr. Chair, members of the Commission.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

The next item for the record is 2018-004, which is also a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed amendment to Section 9.01 of the Charter of Broward County, Florida entitled Central Examining Boards; providing for the appointment or -- of alternate members to the Central Examining Boards; providing for presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and to re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendments to the Charter itself; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would allow for the appointment of alternate members to the Central Examining Boards, also known as the CEBs.

You might be asking yourself at this point what do

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

the CEBs do. Well, let me answer that question for you by saying that the CEBs are responsible for ensuring the registration and licensing of individuals involved with the construction trades. The CEBs provide for Certificates of Competency. The CEBS ensure that individuals involved in the construction trades are properly insured.

The CEBs are also provided for the public to register complaints, mediate disputes. And if you have a construction-related issue, this would be the place to take that issue to.

And that's the resolution.

MR. GOREN: Next, Mr. Chair and Commissioners, if I can, Item Number 4, CRC Resolution Number 2018-005. It's a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed amendment to Section 9.02 of the Charter of Broward County, Florida entitled Building Code and Board of Rules and Appeals; providing for a quorum of the Board of Rules and Appeals to be a

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

majority of the total membership of the Board of Rules and Appeals; providing for presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendments to the Charter; providing for severability; and, finally, providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would provide for a quorum of the Board of Rules and Appeals, also known as BORA, to be a majority of the total membership of BORA.

You might be also asking yourself what does BORA actually do. Well, they are tasked with amending and enforcing provisions of the Florida Building Code.

MR. GOREN: Thank you, Mr. Chair and Commissioners.

The next item on the list is Item Number 2018 --

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Resolution 2018-006. For the record, it's a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed amendment to the Charter of Broward County, Florida by enacting a new Section 1.07 entitled required posting of notices, agendas, and backup materials; providing that for all meetings subject to the requirements of Section 286.011 of the Florida Statutes that all notices, agendas, and backup materials shall be posted on the County or municipality's website no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting; providing for a notice in the event of an emergency meeting; providing for presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and to re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendment to the Charter; providing for severability; and,

15

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES
MARCH 15, 2018
6:30 P.M.
dh/NC

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

finally, providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would provide for the required posting of notices, agendas, and backup materials for all meetings subject to the sunshine law no later than 48 hours prior to a scheduled meeting, and providing for notice in the event of an emergency meeting.

MR. GOREN: The next, if I can, Mr. Chair?

MR. MCDONALD: Yeah.

MR. GOREN: Thank you.

The next item is CRC Resolution Number 2018-007. It's a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed amendment to the Charter of Broward County, Florida by enacting a new Section 11.11 entitled Broward County Affordable Housing Trust Fund; providing for the establishment of the Broward County Affordable Housing Trust Fund; providing for a definition of affordable housing; providing for the purpose of the trust fund, revenue sources for the trust

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

fund, the continuing nature of the trust fund, and for administration and oversight of the trust fund; providing for presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendments to the Charter; providing for severability; and, finally, providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would provide for the establishment of the Broward County Affordable Housing Trust Fund and instructs us that it would provide for a definition of affordable housing.

It would provide the purpose of the trust fund.

It would provide the revenue sources for the Trust Fund.

And, finally, it would provide the continuing

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

nature of the trust fund, as well as the administration and oversight of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

That is the resolution.

MR. GOREN: Next, if I can, Mr. Chair and Commissioners, this is Resolution 2018-008. It's a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed amendment to Section 4.01 of the Charter of Broward County, Florida entitled County Auditor; providing for changes to the composition of the body that appoints the County Auditor; providing for the presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendments to the Charter; providing for severability; and, finally, providing for an effective date.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would provide for changes to the composition of the body that appoints the County Auditor.

This resolution would replace the State of Florida Auditor General with the president of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

This resolution would replace a president of Broward Community College, because we know that entity doesn't exist; it's Broward College, with a president of a local college or university as determined by the Broward County Commission.

If any of the five individuals comprising the body that appoints the County Auditor declines to appoint, then a countywide business would be appointed by the Broward County Commission.

That is the resolution.

MR. GOREN: Next, Mr. Chair, if can, is Resolution Number 2018-010. It's a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

amendment to Section 2.01 of the Charter of Broward County, Florida entitled Composition, Terms, Qualifications, and Compensation of members; providing that the County Commission districts may not be drawn to favor or disfavor an incumbent or political party, and that districts shall not be drawn to deny racial or language minorities the equal opportunity to participate in the political process and elect representatives of their choice; providing for presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and to re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendments to the Charter; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would provide for the codification of the Fair District Amendments into the

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Charter.

This resolution would provide that the County Commission districts may not be drawn to favor or disfavor an incumbent or political party, and that districts shall not be drawn to deny racial or language minorities the equal opportunity to participate in the political process and elect representatives of their choice.

MR. GOREN: Mr. Chair and Commissioners, the next item, please, is CRC Resolution Number 2018-011. It's a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed amendment to Section 2.01 of the Charter of Broward County, Florida entitled Composition, Terms, Qualifications, and Compensation of Members; providing for the redistricting of County Commission districts following the decennial Census in 2020, year 2020, and every ten years thereafter, or sooner if the County Commission determines that districts have become unbalanced due to population

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

shifts; providing for the engagement of a four-year college or university located within the State of Florida for the purpose of identifying and designating nine single member districts within Broward County; providing for presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and to re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendments to the Charter; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would provide for the redistricting process for County Commission districts.

The resolutions provides that, following the decennial Census in 2020 and every ten years thereafter, or sooner if the County Commission determines that districts have become unbalanced due to population

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

shifts, a four-year college or university -- university located within the State of Florida would be engaged for the purpose of identifying and designating nine single member districts within Broward County.

MR. GOREN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We're in the home stretch here.

2018-012 is a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission adopting a proposed amendment to Section 10.01 of the Charter of Broward County, Florida entitled Broward County Office of Inspector General, revising the composition of the Inspector General Selection And Oversight Committee by replacing the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida or his or her appointee with an individual appointed by the Broward County Bar Association; providing for presentation to the electorate by the County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and to re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendment to the Charter; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would provide for replacing the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida or his or her appointee with an individual appointed by the Broward County Bar Association on the Inspector General Selection And Oversight Committee.

MR. GOREN: And last but not least, Mr. Chair and Commissioners, is 2018-013, 013. It's a resolution of the Broward County Charter Review Commission clarifying the Charter by eliminating ineffective language and deleting language that is no longer needed as the entities referenced in the Charter are no longer in existence and serve no legally required purpose; providing for presentation to the electorate by the

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

County Commission at a special referendum election to be held in conjunction with the November 2018 election -- general election; providing the ballot title and summary of the chief purpose of the proposed amendment; providing for the County Attorney to re-number and to re-letter articles and sections in order to conform the amendments to the Charter; providing for severability; and, finally, providing for an effective date.

MR. VERNEY: This resolution would provide for clarifying -- would provide to clarify the Charter by eliminating ineffective language and delete language that is no longer needed as the entities referenced in the Charter are no longer in existence and serve no legally required purpose.

The three entities that would be deleted from the Charter would be the Department of Transportation, the Broward County Environmental Quality Control Board, and, last, it would be the Broward County Ethics Commission.

MR. MCDONALD: Thank you, Sam and Carlos.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM V - PUBLIC COMMENT

MR. MCDONALD: At this time, we're going to start the Public Hearing.

If anybody has not signed up to speak, please go to the front table and they'll give you a form to speak.

We have currently four speakers.

Try to limit it to three minutes. Is there a clock on the side?

MR. VERNEY: Yes, sir.

MR. MCDONALD: The first person to come up and address us I think is Kathy Berg.

Just if you'll state your name and where you live, what city.

MS. BERG: Hi. My name is Kathy Berg, 2881 (Inaudible) Lane, Miramar, Florida.

And I didn't think this was going to come so quickly.

I wanted to say that the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is a really good idea, but I think that we should

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

think about subsidizing rent for low income people, or helping people buy up foreclosed properties.

I think if we don't make it clear about what the trust fund is going to go towards, it could subject it to just basically going to a bunch of developers, not necessarily create affordable housing solutions for people.

With item 010 and then 011, it seems like both of these items should be put together, the fair districts and the university study, because if the fair districts passes, it -- passes, I mean, you know, through the ballot, and then university study doesn't, then there isn't like a neutral third party to be able to make a decision to make sure that the process doesn't get politicized.

And with Item 003, I definitely think that more chances for Public Hearing are important. I know we've definitely worked on -- I've seen many issues in the community with land use that, you know, maybe people

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

weren't able to hear about the first Public Hearing, but then they hear about it and they're able to come to the second one.

So I think anything that's reducing public comment's not a good thing. So I don't think that that's a good idea.

And when -- when you all mentioned Item 006, which is a 48-hour requirement for the agendas for the -- anything with the County Commission, it's -- it's 72 now, so it's a reduction from 72 hours to 40 -- 48 hours, is what I understand.

I think that reducing, again, the amount of time that people can be informed about what they're going to hear in their Commission meeting, you know, is not a good thing, either.

That's it. Thank you.

MR. MCDONALD: Thank you. Appreciate those comments.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: (Inaudible.)

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

MR. MCDONALD: Oh, I'm sorry. I was commenting about your comments, and you opened up my eyes on something.

Sarah Leonardi.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It doesn't decrease.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, it doesn't.

MS. LEONARDI: Good evening. I spoke to you all in Lauderhill last week, and I'm thankful for the opportunity to speak in front of you again.

Last week I spoke about how, as a teacher in the Broward County public school system, I feel unsafe and unprepared in our current climate.

This is not because my school lacks proper security measures. It is not because my students are violent individuals. It is not because I haven't been through countless lock-downs in my five years of teaching.

It is because weapons designed for war are easily and legally purchased every day throughout our country.

I also pointed to our federal and state

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

governments' lack of action and asked you to do what they will not: Secure common sense gun safety measures for Broward County.

I'd like to take a step back and explain why.

As an English teacher, I've had the pleasure to explore one of the great literary and oratory masters in our nation's history, and a lot of what he wrote decades ago still resonates today.

Martin Luther King said, life's most urgent question is what are you doing for others?

I believe you and I share a common purpose in life. I became an educator not for the summers off, not for the hours, and certainly not for the pay. I became an educator because I believe in service to my community.

I believe that you involved yourself in local government because you believe in service, as well.

Sometimes service is joyful, but a lot of times, service is difficult and asks us to make decisions that make us unpopular and put us -- put our comfortable

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

status quo at risk.

Martin Luther King also said, our lives begin and end the day we become silent about things that matter.

We have all been placed in this moment that calls for us to either stay silent and do what is comfortable, and hope that no one remembers our inaction, or to speak up and do what is right, and risk some discomfort.

Passing a resolution that would allow your constituents to vote on -- on a ban to assault weapons and high capacity magazines is the action you need to take.

It is what is right, and it is what you are obligated to do.

Put it to a vote.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be heard tonight.

MR. MCDONALD: Thank you.

Next speaker will be Toby Young.

MS. YOUNG: I decline.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

MR. MCDONALD: You decline? Okay, thank you.

The next speaker will be Jack McClusky.

MR. MCCLUSKY: Jack McClusky, 2241 Northwest 82nd Way, Pembroke Pines.

This is mostly a housekeeping thing. On 006, I think you should consider that, in addition to the time frame the previous speaker mentioned, it's almost impossible to get everything on a website, provided that that city has a website.

And I'm speaking only of cities. I'm speaking of probably plat plans, building plans, et cetera, et cetera. You can't get those things on a website necessarily, and that would be just something you'd have to consider in your language here.

And on guns, if you're considering banning or trying to address the Stoneman Douglas thing, I'd like to quote Jim Carville, it's about the guns, stupid. And he didn't talk about guns. He talked about the economy. But it's about the guns, period.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Thank you.

MR. MCDONALD: Ryan Greenberg. Or Ryann Greenberg.

MS. GREENBERG: It's Ryann.

MR. MCDONALD: Oh, it's Ryan. Okay.

MS. GREENBERG: Ryann Greenberg, 19485 Southwest
67th Street in the great City of Pembroke Pines.

I also have some concerns about Resolution 2018-003
and 2018-006 with respect to transparency, sunshine,
public comment.

I don't know why we would ever want to reduce the
number of hearings and public input in any way.

Mr. Goren knows well, as many years ago we had an
issue with the detention center that nobody knew was
coming, and it had two hearings.

And then, in addition to reducing the number of
hours you would put an agenda up on a website, I would -
- I would never suggest that as a transparency aspect
for the public.

So if you could please rethink that, I'd appreciate

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

it.

Thank you.

MR. MCDONALD: Mildred Boyer. Mildred Boyer?

MS. BOYER: No. I'll pass.

MR. MCDONALD: You didn't want to speak?

MS. BOYER: Pass.

MR. MCDONALD: Pass?

Was there anybody else from the public that would like to speak?

I want to thank everybody for coming tonight.

Several of the speakers brought up items that they questioned. We're -- the Charter Review will have a meeting in early April to decide on some of the comments.

You brought up some items that I hadn't thought of.

Actually, I'd like Kathy Berg to stay afterwards because I'd like to talk to her.

And tomorrow at 10:00 o'clock at the Government Center, the full Charter Review Committee is going to

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

have a meeting to decide if there's anything we can do about gun control. And that's open to the public at 10:00 o'clock tomorrow.

We have two more Public Hearings, the 26th -- 27th and 28th, and --

MS. GUNZBURGER: Tomorrow's meeting, Tom, is in 430?

MR. MCDONALD: Yes. Tomorrow's meeting is in Room 430 at the Broward County Government Center. That's on -- that's on gun control.

We'll have two more Public Hearings like tonight, one in Coral Springs on the 28th --

MR. VERNEY: 27th.

MR. MCDONALD: -- 7th, and one at the African-American Library in Fort Lauderdale on the 28th.

MR. VERNEY: That's right.

MR. MCDONALD: And then we're going to pick a date probably in the first week of April for the full board to convene to consider all your comments tonight and at

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

the other meetings.

We may end up combining a couple of these. Someone suggested that tonight, on the fair districting. We're looking to try to consolidate possibly some of these items so that there won't be so many items on the ballot.

So at this time, we'll adjourn the meeting.

Thank you very much for coming.

And I would like to speak to Kathy Berg.

MR. SMITH: Wait. Tom?

MR. MCDONALD: Oh, did any of the Commissioners have --

MR. SMITH: I do.

MR. MCDONALD: You want to address?

MR. SMITH: I do.

MR. MCDONALD: Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

MR. MCDONALD: Well, we're going to -- we're not going to adjourn the meeting. I think one of the

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Commissioners would like to address some of your comments.

We normally don't have to address them at this time, but I think --

MR. SMITH: I do. I want to --

MR. MCDONALD: -- you did bring up a couple good questions.

MR. SMITH: -- I want to address specifically -- well, two things.

One, on the Public Hearings. It's not -- it is -- on the Public Hearings, it only applies to the Broward County Planning Council, number one.

Number two, it's not that they can't have more Public Hearings, but if it's a non-controversial item and it is something that would normally pass, the Commission itself can decide only to have one.

We're just saying you have to have a minimum of one.

But there have been hundreds of cases over the

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

years where there are things that are pro forma type items, where they don't need another Public Hearing, and it causes needless delay and expense for the applicants.

But it does afford the opportunity for everybody to see, because they're required to post everything before their meetings, much like anything else would be.

And as to the meeting notice of 006, the -- right now there is no standard for postings. There's no standard for when agendas are posted.

Some cities may have them, but there is nothing which says, and that's why we were careful to draft it to say a minimum of 48 hours.

In my professional life, I have been subjected to municipalities that do not have notice requirements, and this is giving them one.

Your -- the city -- I'm not sure where you're from. It doesn't matter. But there are some forward-thinking municipalities that have -- this is not requiring them to take it down to 48 hours. This says no -- no less

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

than 48 hours.

So the ones that have 72 can stay 72. The ones that have 96 can stay 96. But this --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

MR. SMITH: -- but this is the ones who have zero, it's going to require them to do something.

So this -- this was designed specifically to give more notice to people, because in my professional life, I have been burned too many times where cities would post something by thumb tack in a city on a Thursday afternoon at 3:00 -- their city's closed on a Friday -- and for a meeting at 10:00 a.m. Monday.

And under state law, that would be considered reasonable notice. And we're giving some contours to what reasonable means.

And so this was - I believe, and I'm not familiar with whatever city you're with or some others, but the gold standard is really the County. They put out more information than you could ever imagine with their

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

yellow sheets and their Monday night memos and -- and everything that's online.

So I would love to be able to get everybody to that standard, but this was a way to do it. And this was a way for the people to tell the cities to do it, not the County. This is the people.

MR. MCDONALD: This actually was Grant's committee, and Grant wanted more openness in government, so it was not our intent to reduce it.

But, Grant, also, you -- wasn't it your committee that Mr. McClusky asked about putting things online? He was worried about the site plans. Do you have any thoughts on that?

MR. SMITH: I didn't, other than to say that most - - that most of the times now with development projects, you're asked to submit electronic versions. Maybe not the broadsheets, the 24, you know, by 36 architect size sheets, but you are asked to submit electronic copies.

I'm sure you deal with that in your business as

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

well, where if you're doing plans, they ask for electronic copies that are of, you know, something, because they all scan them in now.

And if it's not scannable, the idea would be that it would be available for the meeting at the meeting for inspection.

And, you know, look, this is a first step, because there are a lot of places that literally only have notebooks, they only use thumb tacks. And this is trying to bring them along.

It has been a pet peeve of mine for quite some time, so.

MR. MCDONALD: And I understand somebody brought up the point of -- about the fair districting. That's a good point, and we'll address that.

And there was one other point, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, we made that as broad as possible so that the County Commission -- the way it was originally proposed to us, it was going to be actually more

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

moderate income people that were benefitting from it. Now it can help anybody that the County Commission deems, whether it's homeless, first home buyer. It's not necessarily going to any developer. So --

MS. GUNZBURGER: It could be rental.

MR. MCDONALD: -- it could be rental assistance, it could be that.

MR. SMITH: But more importantly, it -- it's unlike the state's trust funds, which have been raided. This one is specifically earmarked for this, and it can't be used for general funds and general purposes.

MR. MCDONALD: And that's (inaudible).

Any other comments from any of the board members.

You had great comments. We haven't necessarily addressed them at the other meetings, but you brought up stuff that made us think a little bit tonight, and we'll take that up at our April meeting.

AGENDA ITEM VII - ADJOURNMENT

MR. MCDONALD: At this time, the meeting's

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

adjourned.

MR. SMITH: Thanks.

MS. GUNZBURGER: Thank you.

(The meeting concluded at 7:08 p.m.)