



2021-22 Charter Revision Committee – Board of Representatives

Bradley Bewkes, Co-Chair

Jeff Curtis, Co-Chair

Committee Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held remotely*

The 2021-22 Charter Revision Committee of the Board of Representatives met as indicated above. In attendance were Co-Chair Bewkes, Co-Chair Curtis, and Committee Member Reps. Boeger, Ley, Matheny, Pollack, Shaw, Sherwood, and Stella. Also present were Reps. Adams and de la Cruz; Commissioners Lombardo, Larobina, Bilicznianski, Bowser, Camporeale, Halpern, Lane, Michelson, Pioli, Pramberger, and Williams; Attorney Steve Mednick and Attorney Richard Roberts; and two members of the public.

Co-Chair Bewkes called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. C31.007	REVIEW; Update on Charter Revision Commission. 04/04/23 – Submitted by Rep. Bewkes	Report Made

Co-Chair Bewkes stated that he put this item on the Agenda because there are deadlines coming up for the Charter Revision Commission and he would like to have an open conversation on what the progress is, and if the Commission needs anything from the Committee.

Attorney Mednick reviewed where the Commission stands with its work, and there was discussion.

- The Commission is working towards the deadline of June 7th to present the final report to the BOR.
- There are many meetings on the calendar, including a substantial full Commission meeting scheduled for April 29th. There are about 25 legislative/legal items being prepared that will be worked on at this meeting to move toward the completion of the report to the BOR.
- Some committees have completed their work and Attorney Mednick is going through their final reports.
- The open question that remains is will this be going to the 2023 ballot, the 2024 ballot, or sometime in between with a special election for a freestanding referendum?
 - A freestanding referendum would require 15 percent of registered voters validating it.
 - A 2023 ballot requires an accelerated timeline to be ready.
 - A 2024 ballot would give more time for the work but could be lost in the issues of the presidential election.

- Commissioner Lombardo pointed out that in the 13th Charter Revision there was a special election and the 15th percent voter threshold was not met.
- If this is to be on the 2023 Ballot, the BOR would have to finish everything, including two public hearings, by the end of August.
- Attorney Mednick will work with the Commission's Committee Chairs to get a list of Charter items that are no longer being considered by the Commission.
- After the Charter Revision Commission meeting on April 29th there should be a better sense of where things stand in the process. The BOR can always reduce the time needed to approve the report from 60 days to either 40 or 30 days. Attorney Mednick has worked with Commissions that had a two-week turnaround time. If there are items that are determined cannot be resolved in that time, those items can be eliminated.
- To be on the 2023 ballot, there will have to be an acceleration of BOR meetings in June and July. Attorney Mednick will talk to Ms. Rosenson in the Board Office about the schedule of BOR meetings to see what can be done.
- Once the process is complete, the questions have to be prepared for the ballot. Statutorily the printing of the ballot has to be done the first week of September.
- The difference between an accelerated timeline and a longer timeline is one month.
- Co-Chair Bewkes stated that the Commission could always submit the report earlier than June 7th, if that is possible.

Co-Chair Bewkes adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bradley Bewkes, Co-Chair

This meeting is on [video](#)