



2020 ORANGE COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION (CRC)

Committee Summary Report

Split Oak Committee

December 6, 2019
Comptroller's 4th Floor Conference Room
4:00 p.m.

Committee Members:

James R. Auffant, Chair
Russell Drake
John Fauth
Nikki Mims
Samuel Vilchez Santiago (via telephone)
Clifford Shepard, CRC Attorney
Jennifer Lara-Klimetz, Assisting CRC as Staff

Invited Guest:

Commissioner Pete Clarke

The organizational meeting of the Split Oak Committee was held to identify issues and to address any member questions.

Invited Guest

Commissioner Pete Clarke addressed the committee regarding the history of Split Oak.

Committee Chair Comments

Chair Auffant opened the meeting and members of the committee introduced themselves. Following introductions, Chair Auffant presented the ballot title, summary, and proposed amendment prepared by General Counsel.

Members Open Discussion

Member Vilchez Santiago stated that the committee should study the positive and potential negative effects the Split Oak proposal. Chair Auffant agreed.

Member Drake requested the estimated financial impacts of the Split Oak proposal. Discussion ensued.

Member Fauth provided remarks regarding Commissioner Clarke's comments. Member Fauth suggested the provision should require two successful, successive referendums before allowing the Split Oaks charter protections be removed from the Charter. Member Auffant requested General Counsel Shepard research Member Fauth's suggestion and provide his opinion at the next committee meeting. Discussion ensued.

Member Mims contributed to the conversation and thanked Chair Auffant for seeking General Counsel in the preparation of the Split Oak Ballot template.

Member Fauth submitted an exhibit to the committee by Rachel E. Deming regarding Protecting Natural Resources – Forever: The Obligations of State Officials to Uphold “Forever” Constitutional Provisions. Discussion ensued. General Counsel Shepard contributed to the discussion.

Following the discussion, the members agreed to set the next committee meeting for Monday, December 16, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

Member Auffant commended General Counsel Shepard for his work in preparing the draft Ballot title, summary, and proposed amendment.

Public Comment

The following persons addressed the committee:

Nicole Wilson
Valerie Anderson
Charles Lee
Tina Sorbo
Jim Erwin
Trevor Sorbo
Kimberly Buchheit
Eugene Stoccardo
Megan Sorbo

Future Action Plan

Member Vilchez Santiago encouraged committee members and members of the public to visit Split Oak. Discussion ensued.

The next scheduled committee meeting will be held on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. Supporting materials, including the meeting notice, agenda, audio and summary report, may be found by visiting <https://www.occompt.com/clerk-of-the-bcc/charter-2020/meetings/>.