

Orange County Government

*Orange County Administration Center
201 S Rosalind Ave.
Orlando, FL 32802-1393*



Draft Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 9, 2020

6:00 PM

District 2 - Wekiva High School

2020 Charter Review Commission

CRC Members:

Camille Evans, Chair

James R. Auffant, Vice Chair

Jack Douglas–Russell Drake–John E. Fauth–Matthew Klein–

Jeffrey A. Miller–Nikki Mims–Angela Melvin–Samuel Vilchez Santiago–Soraya Smith–

Lee Steinhauer–Eugene Stoccardo–Anthony (Tony) Suarez–Dotti Wynn

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: 14 - Member Camille Evans, Member James R. Auffant, Member Jack Douglas, Member Russell Drake, Member John E. Fauth, Member Matthew Klein, Member Angela Melvin, Member Jeffrey A. Miller, Member Nikki Mims, Member Samuel Vilchez Santiago, Member Soraya Smith, Member Lee Steinhauer, Member Eugene Stoccardo, and Member Dotti Wynn

Absent: 1 - Member Anthony (Tony) Suarez

Others present:

CRC General Counsel Cliff Shepard
Deputy Clerk Katie Smith
Senior Minutes Coordinator Craig Stopyra

Pledge of Allegiance**I. Invited Guest**

- BCC District 2 Commissioner Christine Moore

Commissioner Moore addressed the CRC and thanked the members of the Charter for their work and service.

II. Public Comment

The following persons addressed the Board:

- Todd Catella
- Sally Baptiste
- Bobby Beagles
- Mary Nesler
- Valerie Anderson
- Jess Kovach
- Bob Sanders
- Peter Herrera
- Julia Hara
- Lisa Ray

The following material was presented to the CRC prior to the close of public comment: Exhibit 1, from Sally Baptiste.

The following materials were received by the Clerk prior to the close of public comment. The materials referenced by the speaker were not presented to the CRC:

- Submittal 1, from Todd Catella
- Submittal 2, from Bob Sanders

I. Invited Guest (Continued)

- City of Apopka Mayor Bryan Nelson

Mayor Nelson addressed the CRC and suggested that the CRC not preempt what a City would like to do and allow the City to establish policies first rather than at the County level. Mayor Nelson asked that the CRC not limit the Board of County Commissioners ability to appoint citizens, whether a lobbyist or not, to advisory boards. Mayor Nelson presented his thoughts regarding the citizen initiative petition process.

II. Public Comment (Continued)

The following persons addressed the Board:

- Chuck O'Neal
- Douglas Soto
- Marge Holt
- Nicole Wilson
- Anh Volmer
- Jim Erwin
- Kimberly Buchheit
- Lynette Scible
- Katrina Shadix

The following materials were received by the Clerk prior to the close of public comment. The materials referenced by the speaker were not presented to the CRC:

- Submittal 3, from Nicole Wilson
- Submittal 4, from Anh Volmer

III. Consent Item

- A. CRC-20-074** Approval and execution of the minutes of the December 4, 2019 District 3 Public Hearing of the Charter Review Commission (CRC).

A motion was made by Vice Chair Auffant, seconded by Member Santiago, to approve and execute the minutes of December 4, 2019. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 14 - Member Evans, Member Auffant, Member Douglas, Member Drake, Member Fauth, Member Klein, Member Melvin, Member Miller, Member Mims, Member Santiago, Member Smith, Member Steinhauer, Member Stoccardo, and Member Wynn

Absent: 1 - Member Suarez

IV. Chair Comments

Chair Evans intends to keep the CRC focused and reminded all that they are here on behalf of all of the residents of Orange County and not just those who share the same interests or ideas of the CRC. Chair Evans indicated that attendance of members at CRC regular business meetings and subcommittee is very important. Final reports from subcommittees will be forthcoming to the full CRC and it is critical for members to attend all CRC meetings.

V. Discussion Item

A. CRC-20-075 Proposed Charter Review Topic - Permanent Funding of Green PLACE

General Counsel Shepard presented the topic of the Proposed Charter Review Topic - Permanent Funding of Green PLACE. The amendment was proposed by Member Stoccardo. The purpose is to provide permanent funding to purchase environmentally sensitive lands in Orange County. In terms of its history, General Counsel Shepard indicated that there has never been a similar proposal for Charter amendment previously. Since 1991, there has been a Public Services Tax and it is currently incorporated in Ordinance 98-33, and it reserves a minimum of \$7,500,000, which "must be expended yearly for parks, recreation and environmentally sensitive lands." General Counsel Shepard outlined perceived pros and cons of the proposal. One in favor of the proposal is that there would be a dedicated funding source to buy environmentally sensitive lands. Alternatively, as it is currently drafted, Member Stoccardo has provided a title, summary and actual amendment for purchases only so that it would eliminate long term leases and the possibility of conservation easements. General Counsel Shepard doesn't know if the proposed amendment is legal to have this kind of budgetary requirement and restriction in a Charter as opposed to allowing the Taxing/Budgeting Authority to meet with elected officials.

A motion was made by Member Stoccardo, seconded by Member Santiago, to have Permanent Funding of Green PLACE established as an evaluation topic for the 2020 CRC. No vote was taken.

Discussion ensued amongst CRC members regarding the proposed amendment, the Public Services Tax and its funding and whether the CRC should wait on establishing it as an evaluation topic for the 2020 CRC until General Counsel Shepard can further investigate the legality of the proposal. General Counsel Shepard contributed to the discussion.

Member Stoccardo was in favor of tabling the proposed topic to give General Counsel Shepard time to conduct legal research on the proposed amendment. Chair Evans indicated that the proposed CRC topic would be tabled and added to the February CRC agenda.

VI. Subcommittee Updates

A. CRC-20-076 Split Oak Committee Meetings Held on December 6 and 16, 2019 and January 6, 2020 (Vice Chair Auffant)

Chair Evans requested an update from Vice Chair Auffant on the Split Oak subcommittee meetings. Vice Chair Auffant thanked General Counsel Shepard for writing the proposal and also Subcommittee Members Drake, Fauth, Mims and Santiago for all their hard work. The next

subcommittee meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2020, and will be to finalize the final report. Vice Chair Auffant requested the final report of his subcommittee be placed on an agenda without any other reports scheduled. Deputy Clerk Smith indicated that the final report of the Split Oak Subcommittee is scheduled to come before the full CRC on the May 6, 2020 agenda.

Member Santiago asked for feedback on the citizen's request to enact a resolution pertaining to Split Oak. Chair Evans indicated that it would be the work product of the subcommittee and it would need to be brought back by the subcommittee to the full CRC for consideration.

B. CRC-20-077 Citizen-Initiated Charter and Ordinance Amendment Process Committee
Meetings Held on December 10, 2019 and January 8, 2020 (Member Smith)

Chair Evans requested an update from Member Smith on the Citizen-Initiated Charter and Ordinance Amendment Process subcommittee meetings. Member Smith indicated that the subcommittee was tasked to review the citizen-initiated charter and ordinance amendment process and see if the petition threshold needs to be adjusted. The subcommittee unanimously agreed not to make any adjustments to the current petition threshold. The subcommittee received data from surrounding counties, input from public comment, and The League of Women Voters as well as historical documents and data provided by the Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections. Because of the data and information that the subcommittee received, Member Smith provided concerns of how difficult it can be for citizens to place an amendment on the ballot. Member Smith requested authority from the full CRC to expand the scope of their subcommittee to look at all aspects of the 180-day limitations as it affects the petitioner's ability to proceed in a timely basis with a citizen initiative. Chair Evans commented about the procedure established by the CRC of how to expand the scope of a subcommittee's topic. Discussion ensued regarding work product guidelines, timelines in presenting topics to the full CRC, and deadlines for upcoming CRC agendas. Deputy Clerk Smith contributed to the discussion.

C. CRC-20-078 Rights of the Wekiva River and Econlockhatchee River Committee Meetings
Held on December 16, 2019 and January 6, 2020 (Member Stoccardo)

Chair Evans requested an update from Member Stoccardo on the Rights of the Wekiva River and Econlockhatchee River subcommittee meetings. The next subcommittee is scheduled for January 22, 2020, at 4 p.m., in the Martha O. Haynie Conference Room. Final input will be presented by each member of the subcommittee during the meeting. General Counsel Shepard was directed to work on the ballot summary, title and final report, which will be presented to the full CRC in February.

D. CRC-20-079 Number and Composition of County Commission Districts Committee
Meeting Held on December 18, 2019 (Member Douglas)

Chair Evans requested an update from Member Douglas on the Number and Composition of County Commission Districts subcommittee meetings. Member Douglas stated that the subcommittee is prepared to submit a final report to be reviewed by the full CRC during the regular business meeting in February.

E. CRC-20-080 Ethics Concerning Lobbyists Committee Meeting to be Held on January 13, 2020 (Member Steinhauer)

Chair Evans requested an update from Member Steinhauer on the upcoming Ethics Concerning Lobbyists subcommittee meeting. Member Steinhauer announced the next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2020, at 4 p.m. Following the meeting, the subcommittee will be prepared to submit their final report to the full CRC during the regular business meeting in February.

VII. New Business

There was no new business discussed.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the CRC adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Camille Evans, Chair
2020 Charter Review Commission