



**2018 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2018**

The 2018 Charter Review Commission convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, January 11, 2018, Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Room 1029, Austin, Texas.

Chair Palvino called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Authur
Commissioner Cotera
Commissioner Lewis
Commissioner Palvino

Commissioner Borgelt
Commissioner Hersh
Commission Martinez-Moncada
Commissioner Weigand

Commissioners Musselman, Smith and Ward were absent

Staff in Attendance:

Jannette Goodall, City Clerk's Office
Myrna Rios, City Clerk's Office
Lynn Carter, Law Department

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

There were no citizens who registered to speak.

2. NEW BUSINESS

The Commission may discuss and take action on the following agenda items:

a) Campaign Finance/Ethics Work Group Report

Commissioner Lewis gave a briefing on the work of the Campaign Finance/Ethics Work Group. The Work Group provided the Commission with a list of 19 items to provide feedback or direction for the Work Group to research or provide more details prior to presenting their final recommendation to the Commission for adoption. (See attached Work Group Report for additional details.)

The 19 items were:

- 1. Number and Amount of Vouchers**
- 2. Number of signatures and qualifying contributions**
- 3. Eligible Voucher holders**
- 4. Who can holders give vouchers to**
- 5. Spending limits**
- 6. Waiver of expenditure limits**
- 7. Contribution limits**
- 8. Limit self-funding and/or loans to campaign**
- 9. Seed money**
- 10. Delivering vouchers**

11. Bundling
12. Waiting period before fundraising
13. Anti-fraud provisions
14. Municipal penalties
15. State penalties
16. Reassessment
17. Administration
18. Budget limit
19. Source of funds

The Commission agreed the Work Group should proceed with providing more details on items 1-9 and item 19. Items 10-18 should be left until the Commission has consensus on if the Voucher Program should be forwarded to Council. In addition, the following direction was given to the Work Group:

- Review and provide a recommendation on increases to the contribution limits.
- Recommendations for alternatives for items that are dependent upon the creation of an independent Ethics Review Commission
- Information on the impact of Federal and State requirements (items 3 and 4).
- Information on how and when a participant would obtain a waiver of expenditure limits (item 6).
- Provide case law on candidates reimbursing personal loans from campaign contributions (item 8).
- Information on qualifying for seed money and how much a campaign would cost the City based on receipt of seed money and vouchers (item 9).

- b) Discussion of and selection of future public hearing dates and locations

The Commission agreed to conduct public hearings in late March (one hearing located downtown, and one in each of the four geographical areas (East, North, South and West) with one public hearing being held on a Saturday.

3. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Commission may discuss and identify additional meeting dates and future agenda items, topics or presentations.

The Commission selected February 5, 12, 20 and 26 for future meeting dates.

Chair Palvino adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m. without objection.