

**CLERKS SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
CHARTER REVIEW TASK FORCE MEETING
July 9, 2007**

The Charter Review Task Force convened in a meeting on July 9, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. on the 18th Floor, Conference Rooms 3 and 4 of the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 N.W. 1st Street, Miami, Florida. The following members were present: Chairman Victor M. Diaz, Jr. and members Ms. Lynn Dannheiser, Mr. Miguel De Grandy, Mayor David Dermer, Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron, Mr. Maurice A. Ferre, Mayor Shirley Gibson, Mr. Robert A. Ginsburg, Mr. Larry Handfield, Ms. Elizabeth Hernandez, Mr. Robert Holland, Mr. Francois Illas, Mr. Richard Kuper, Mr. Raul L. Martinez, Mr. H. T. Smith, Ms. Yvonne Soler-McKinley, Commissioner Javier D. Souto, Ignacio Vasquez; (Ms. Lynn Dannheiser was late, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez was excused, and Mr. John Hogan was absent).

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Diaz called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. He noted that 2007 marked the 50th anniversary of the adoption of Miami-Dade County's original Home Rule Charter, and it was fitting for this distinguished group of public servants and civic-minded individuals to be assembled today (6/9) to review the Charter.

ROLL CALL:

The following staff members were present: Assistant County Manager Susanne M. Torriente; Assistant County Attorneys Cynthia Johnson-Stacks and Joni Armstrong-Coffey; and Deputy Clerks Kay Sullivan and Mary Smith-York.

Chairman Diaz noted, for the record, that Ms. Lynn Dannheiser would arrive late and that Commissioner Carlos Gimenez should be listed as excused from today's meeting.

2. INTRODUCTIONS OF TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND STAFF

Chairman Diaz noted most of the Task Force members had contributed greatly to community services. He expressed his sincere appreciation to members for their service on this Task Force as well as their outstanding service to this community in the past.

Chairman Diaz expressed sincere appreciation to County Commission Chairman Bruno Barreiro for appointing him as Chair of this Task Force. He noted he was hopeful that the outcome of this endeavor was reflective of the confidence placed in him; that it was his personal aspiration for this Task Force to fulfill the County Commission's mandate through an open, inclusive, and participatory process. He also noted he aspired to facilitate robust, collegial discussion, which would not be difficult considering makeup of this Task Force and the unique knowledge and expertise existing among this group.

Chairman Diaz explained that the Task Force would encourage, promote, and engage community participation in its deliberations and include public input in its recommendations. He urged each Task Force member to think critically, creatively, and

broadly about the potential of Home Rule; whether it fulfilled the enormous promise of Home Rule; and whether it provided the residents of Miami-Dade County with the most effective, ethical, and responsive government possible. He said he would constantly remind Task Force members that their ultimate responsibility was to the two million plus residents of this Community—people who depended on the County to deliver services every day. Chairman Diaz welcomed Mayor Carlos Alvarez and invited him to provide welcoming remarks.

Mayor Carlos Alvarez greeted each of the Task Force members and expressed his sincere appreciation for their involvement in this important task. He noted the Dade County Charter was written in 1957, and he had become very familiar with this document over the past couple of years. Mayor Alvarez said he had received many suggestions and recommendations from people throughout this entire community on how to improve the Charter during his tenure as Mayor. . He also noted the world had changed since the Home Rule Charter was adopted in 1957, and much of the language contained within this document needed to be revisited; including the commissioners' salaries and the feasibility of appointing commissioners by district or Countywide, etc. Consequently, Mayor Alvarez said he strongly encouraged this Task Force to review the Charter page-by-page and to recommend changes as deemed appropriate.

Mayor Alvarez acknowledged the expertise of many members and recognized Task Force member Maurice Ferre as a former City of Miami Mayor, a former Miami-Dade County Commissioner, and a former state legislator.

Chairman Diaz recognized Commissioner Natacha Seijas and invited her to provide welcoming remarks.

Commissioner Natacha Seijas welcomed Task Force members, and expressed her appreciation for their assistance in this endeavor. She reassured Chairman Diaz and Task Force members that the findings/recommendations of this body would be well-received and well-approved by the County Commission. She urged them to use their expertise and passion in this process, which she noted would be onerous, but the results would benefit the entire community.

Chairman Diaz recognized County Commission Chairman Bruno Barreiro and invited him to provide welcoming remarks. He reiterated his previous comments in which he expressed appreciation to Chairman Barreiro for the opportunity to Chair this Task Force.

County Commission Chairman Bruno Barreiro expressed his gratitude to Chairman Diaz for accepting the challenge of leading this Task Force, which he noted was an enormous task. He welcomed the members of the Task Force and expressed his appreciation for their participation in this incredible process. Chairman Barreiro stated he believed the County Commission would be very happy to accept those recommendations, and encouraged the panel to be very deliberate and to come forth with very good recommendations.

Chairman Diaz acknowledged the arrival of Commissioner Javier Souto, whom he noted had served as the representative for his respective district for the past 36 years. He also noted the arrival of the former Chairman of the Public Health Trust, Larry Handfield, before inviting County Manager George Burgess to present welcoming remarks.

County Manager George Burgess noted one of the most important tasks facing County government was to revisit and update the local Charter in a healthy, deliberative process. He also noted this community was gifted with an extraordinary document, the Home Rule Charter; and that the State Constitution provided for local Home Rule for Miami-Dade County in a way that did not exist anywhere else. County Manager Burgess said this Task Force would carefully analyze the Home Rule Charter to ensure that this community benefitted from all the authority empowered in local government.

County Manager Burgess introduced members of his staff as follows: Assistant County Manager Susanne Torriente and her assistant, Ms. Maggie Fernandez and Ms. Jennifer Glazer-Moon, Director, Office of Strategic Business Management and her assistant Ms. Vivian Duyos. He said he would attend as many of these meetings as possible, and that Ms. Torriente and his staff would be available to provide factual information, honest input, and to support this body as necessary.

Chairman Diaz recognized Acting County Attorney Robert Cuevas and invited him to provide welcoming remarks.

Acting County Attorney Robert Cuevas noted this community was facing many problems that did not stop at municipal boundaries. Traditionally, the Countywide form of government was probably best able to react to those problems, and the County operated under the Home Rule Charter, pursuant to unique constitutional amendments, specific to this community, Mr. Cuevas explained. He advised that Assistant County Attorneys Joni Armstrong-Coffey and Cynthia Johnson-Stacks would provide more details regarding that issue.

The County Commission created this body and its membership included the combined expertise of former and existing mayors, city and county commissioners. It also included the expertise of former Miami-Dade County Attorneys Robert Ginsburg and Mr. Murray Greenberg. This knowledgeable, experienced group of individuals would provide practical, realistic insight into interpreting the Charter, its applicability, and the consequences of any changes. Mr. Cuevas noted the findings/recommendations of this Task Force must be submitted to the County Commission by October 31st of this year, which was on Halloween. He explained the significance of the October 31st date, noting the deadline to place proposed amendments to the Home Rule Charter on the ballot was January 29, 2008, which was a fairly short time frame considering the County Commission must consider and approve the recommendations and place them for approval by the electorate..

Chairman Diaz noted, for the record, that although Mr. Cuevas referred to former County Attorney Murray Greenberg as a current member of the Task Force, his appointment would not become effective until August 1, 2007.

Chairman invited each individual Task Force members to introduce him/herself and to provide an abbreviated biography.

3. COMMISSION MANDATE TO CHARTER REVIEW TASK FORCE

Chairman Diaz referenced the two resolutions included in today's meeting package and noted the enabling resolution was adopted on April 24, 2007, and was effective May 8, 2007. The Commission mandated that the Task Force should:

- Study the study the Final Report of the last Charter Review Task Force dated July 10, 2001;
- Identify knowledgeable persons who should guide this process;
- Ensure public participation and hold public hearings with respect to subject matters considered;
- Reflect the racial, ethnic, and gender balance and diversity of Miami-Dade County;
- Submit written recommendations to the Commission by October 31, 2007; and
- Study whether the County's Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, Sheriff, and Supervisor of Elections shall become elected positions.

4. PURPOSE AND HISTORY OF CHARTER

Chairman Diaz noted he requested and received a copy of a memorandum prepared by former County Attorney Murray Greenberg regarding the Home Rule Charter as well as some case law about the interpretation of the amendment to the State Constitution that created the Home Rule Charter for this County. He asked that a copy of Mr. Greenberg's memorandum be provided to each Task Force member. Chairman Diaz noted he was unsure whether the residents of this community recognized the enormity of the powers granted to the residents of this community by the Home Rule amendment to the State Constitution, and he questioned whether this community had begun to exercise the full authority granted in that unusual exception to the State Constitution. He urged each Task Force member to carefully consider and become educated on the enormous potential of the Charter and what this Task Force could do if time permitted, in terms of fulfilling the Charter and their ability to determine for themselves what local government would look like.

Chairman Diaz invited Assistant County Attorney Joni Armstrong-Coffey to comment on the historical perspective of the Home Rule Amendment adopted in 1956 by statewide electorate.

Assistant County Attorney Armstrong-Coffey noted that as Chairman Diaz mentioned earlier, the Home Rule Amendment was Charter was adopted by the Statewide electorate in 1956, which granted powers to the electors of Miami-Dade County to:

- 1) empower electors to adopt, revise, and amend a Home Rule Charter of government;

- 2) prescribe provisions and limits of the Charter's constitutional authority; and
- 3) provide Home Rule for the people of Dade County in local affairs.

Ms. Armstrong-Coffey further noted in 1957, the electorate of Dade County adopted its first Home Rule Charter, and the purpose of the Charter was to add "legs" to those constitutional powers provided by the Home Rule Amendment. She pointed out that the Supreme Court of Florida understood the difficulty of drafting or amending a document of this magnitude 50 years ago, and said at the time that the Charter was approved for placement on the Ballot, "to prepare a Home Rule Charter, to combine county and municipal functions, and to prepare for their government as contemplated by the proposed amendment, will be a tedious and difficult undertaking. It will require wisdom and statesmanship of a high order, but it is by no means impossible." By its own terms, the Home Rule Charter requires review every five years, a process, which had been undertaken many times since the original charter was adopted, Ms. Armstrong-Coffey noted. She noted it was the County Attorney's privilege to provide legal advice to this Task Force. Ms. Armstrong-Coffey noted Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks would provide additional input on the history of the Charter.

Ms. Cynthia Johnson-Stacks noted she was charged with the task of outlining the history of Charter Review Task Forces over the years and after digging through several musty volumes of files, she discovered that the first reference to a Charter Review Board was in 1967; that the first Task Force report was in 1974. She said in that report, the recommendation mentioned earlier by Ms. Armstrong-Coffey that a periodic review of the Charter be conducted every five years was suggested and recommended. In 1976, the Home Rule Charter was amended to adopt the process previously described. As a result, several Charter Review reports were submitted in 1982, 1986, 1989, and 1990, Mr. Johnson-Stacks noted. She said Clerk of the Board had complied copies that were available for review by interested members.

Continuing, Ms. Johnson-Stacks said the Miami-Dade Mayor's Ad Hoc Committee on the Powers and Duties of the Mayor was created to review Charter issues following the creation and election of the executive mayor. She noted Chairman Diaz specifically asked that she discuss the 2001 Charter Review Task Force report, which was included in the information packages distributed to members. Most notably, the Charter Review Task Force recommended that the County Commission be empowered to select its own Chairperson, to create committee and empower those committees to create their own rules, which was a shift in the powers of the County Commission because those functions were previously performed by the executive mayor.

This Task Force did not recommend the creation of a Strong Mayor form of government, although it was studied, Ms. Johnson-Stacks noted. She pointed out that following the conclusion of the report, which was issued after several years of study, extensive debate and public hearings, the Task Forces' recommendations were submitted to the County Commission. Ms. Johnson-Stacks noted the County Commission began its own process to review the Charter and created an ad hoc committee on Charter Review where all proposals were discussed and debated, followed by further debate by the

County Commission. Consequently, the County Commission called a Special Elections on the 13 proposed Charter amendments, five of which were vetoed by former Mayor Alex Penelas and subsequently overridden by the County Commission, resulting in 13 proposed Charter Questions on the ballot in 2001.

Eleven (11) of the 13 proposals were approved by a majority vote of the electorate and were reflected in the 2001 Amendment to the Home Rule Charter, Ms. Johnson-Stacks noted. She said Chairman Diaz also asked that she look beyond the materials provided to this body, and to remind members that some of the information may not be reflected in the report, but was important to the function of the body. Ms. Johnson-Stacks explained that the 2001 Charter Review Task Force was very thorough and undertook a sequential review, article-by-article, paragraph-by-paragraph, and page-by-page of the Home Rule Charter. She noted County Manager Burgess and former County Manager Merritt Steirheim participated in this process, and that she along with former County Attorney Murray Greenberg reviewed various provisions of the Charter and a detailed study was undertaken before recommendations were developed.

Ms. Johnson-Stacks explained that the Charter Review Task Force adopted a policy early in the process to ensure that discussions were flexible and that members retained the ability to reconsider issues and change decisions as they were informed. The Task Force also adopted a policy that the Chair and only the Chair would speak on behalf of the Task Force; and to authorize a minority report based on a process that would allow members to review the drafted report, ask questions, and add input.

Many votes were taken by straw ballot, and a database of ideas was created which evolved over the course of the two-year period, Ms. Johnson-Stacks noted. Because this Task Force was extended for a lengthy period of time, the Chair of the Task Force reported to the County Commission as to the Committee's progress. This body requested an extension of time for additional study and input on at least three occasions.

In conclusion, Ms. Johnson-Stacks noted the issues addressed and examined by Charter Review Committees had been critical to the restructuring and amendment of the Home Rule Charter over the years, and she was confident that the recommendations of this body would be as thoughtful and as critical to moving local government forward.

Ms. Johnson-Stacks responded to questions from Task Force members regarding the percentage of the Task Force recommendations actually adopted by the County Commission in 2001. She explained that two recommendations: The recommendation that the number of County Commissioners be increased up to 14 was rejected by the voters; and that the recommendation to increase the percentage of the electors required to sign an initiative petition from 4 to 5% was rejected by the County Commission. The County Commission decided to implement some recommendations as well, which was to abolish the Fire Board.

Chairman Diaz noted he had asked the Clerk's Office to compile a comprehensive history on prior Task Forces summarizing the recommendations and the outcome of the recommendations to provide this body with a record of the number of recommendations adopted, the number presented to the voters, and the number ultimately passed by the voters. He noted this information would be provided later.

Following questions from members regarding any limitations on the scope of this Task Force's recommendations, Chairman Diaz explained there were no limitations set by the Board of County Commissioners' resolution on the power and scope of this body's recommendations.

Mayor Martinez pointed out that past problems resulted from the fact that the process was piece-mealed, which resulted in inconsistencies in the Charter and confusion for the voters.

Chairman Diaz noted, for the record, that the recommendations of this body may be limited in terms of ballot questions, which Ms. Johnson-Stacks would address.

Ms. Johnson-Stacks provided further clarification, noting the County was required to comply with State law, which limited the number of words contained within a ballot question. If the study conducted by this body concluded that numerous changes needed to be made to the Charter as a whole, it may be difficult to address into one question. However, this would be a challenge for the County Attorneys and they would provide advice throughout the process as needed.

Chairman Diaz reiterated that there were no pre-determined limitations of the scope of this Task Force's recommendations; how that was translated into ballot questions could be considered later, but implicates certain legal restrictions in the State Constitution, which the County Attorneys Office would have to opine. He suggested it would be premature to ask the attorneys to opine at this time, but this body could be as broad in its deliberation as they wish.

Mayor Martinez pointed out that the ballot question was not the issue, but the inconsistencies or conflicts. He maintained that people were confused and had problems understanding their government. He noted a document that was very clear, transparent and understandable to everyone would be very beneficial.

Mayor Ferre noted he concurred with Mayor Martinez. He suggested the constraints of this body were multiple; that as an advisory board this body was limited by the State Constitution. Mayor Ferre agreed that this would be a very difficult task.

Mayor Derma noted he concurred with Mayor Martinez that this body should prepare one document to be prepared as one ballot question, which would obviously simplify the process and express a sentiment of universal reform. He noted this was a threshold legal issues and the legal counsel should provide an opinion at the next meeting as to whether or not the recommendations of this Task Force had to be broken up into

separate ballot questions or whether the entire Charter can be placed on the ballot for approval.

Chairman Diaz asked the County Attorneys to report back to the Task Force at its next meeting whether if the recommendations were presented to—and adopted by the County Commission, whether any ballot initiative prohibitions against the County Commission presenting it to the voters in that manner. He also asked the County Attorneys to determine the feasibility of adding the recommendations of this entire body and the functionality in that effort (i.e., the existing document, how the County Commission's recommendations would be an appropriate action, and how that would be accomplished).

Chairman Diaz reiterated that a copy of former County Attorney Greenberg's memorandum would be provided to each committee member.

Mr. Smith pointed out that the 2001 Charter Review process was two years whereas this body had until October 31 of this year. He emphasized the importance for members to have a discussion on whether they wanted to be practical or idealistic.

Chairman Diaz noted he felt it was possible for the Task Force to be both practical and idealistic in developing its recommendations. He noted this body could consider and discuss the feasibility of requesting an extension of time to study additional questions, dependent upon the agenda items, the priority of those agenda items, and the will of this body; that this would be one of the first issues discussed.

Chairman Diaz noted the next item to be discussed today would be the Sunshine Law and Conflict of Interest, which governs this body. He also noted this body had already encountered an issue involving a memorandum, which Mayor Ferre authored and asked to be distributed to all members before this meeting. Copies of this memorandum were in the information packages distributed to members and he invited each member to review it because it would be the first item discussed under discussion items, Chairman Diaz pointed out.

5. REVIEW OF SUNSHINE LAW, PUBLIC RECORDS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Assistant County Attorney Armstrong-Coffey provided a brief overview of the Sunshine Law as it related to this Charter Review Task Force, highlighting the following issues:

- 1) discussions regarding the Task Force business be conducted only at duly advertised meetings;
- 2) minutes be taken of those proceedings;
- 3) no discussion should take place among members of the board outside the duly advertised public meetings and that the Task Force members' subordinates not engage in those discussions so communication was inadvertently made between members;
- 4) refrain from sending alternates to meetings to eliminate communication between alternates in a staff capacity;

- 5) no express state statutory authorization for local bodies to have members appear by telephone;
- 6) no authorization for any member to abstain from a vote while in the room;
- 7) communicate with staff, who will disseminate and assimilate the records in a manner consistent with public records law; and
- 8) committee not subject to financial disclosure requirements so long as it did not become a board.

Ms. Armstrong-Coffey advised that staff would remain available to members to answer any questions regarding certain other provisions that applied to this Task Force, including lobbying requirements.

6. OVERVIEW OF HOME RULE AMENDMENT AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CHARTER

Presented earlier during today's meeting.

7. BACKGROUND WORK ACCOMPLISHED TO DATE

Chairman Diaz provided an oral overview of his initiatives in organizing the work of this Task Force, noting he had held several meetings with staff to seek guidance, input and recommendations—from the County Attorney's Office, the County Manager's office. He noted staff had some strong recommendations on the procedures on whether this should be an informal process, and recommended Task Force members listen to those recommendations. Additionally, Chairman Diaz noted he had asked staff to begin the task of identifying a series of resource materials that he wanted to review and that he anticipated would be sought by many other members including:

The history of prior Task Force Reports along with the findings/recommendations and the results of the ballot questions, were being prepared by the Clerk's Office, Chairman Diaz noted. He also noted he had issued a letter on behalf of this Task Force seeking recommendations for potential agenda items from the Mayor, the Chairman and members of the County Commission, the County Manager, County Attorney, and the County Clerk; and that he had asked these individuals to be as broad or as specific as they wished.

Additionally, Chairman Diaz noted he asked the County Attorney's Office to study some of the legal precedents and best practices for both operating procedures and to begin the process of identifying best practices Charters for this Task Force to study. He pointed out that staff had initiated this process and had already gathered a list of cities and comparable Charters this body may wish to examine. He noted he read the 2001 Charter Task Force report as well as the lively opposition presented by Attorney Gene Sterns. He said he also referenced the County Attorney's memorandum on the breath of the Home Rule Charter, and asked that copies be provided. He explained that compiled a series of cases that interpret the Charter and asked the County Manager's Office to begin identifying sites within this community outside of Downtown Miami, to hold public hearings. He said he also asked staff to research to determine whether the Task Force's proceedings could or should be televised, Finally, Chairman Diaz said he

asked the County Manager's Office to begin creating a Webpage for this Task Force on the County's Website. He explained that his intent was for the first meeting to be primarily educational or organizational.

8. COMMENTS/DISCUSSION BY TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Chairman Diaz invited members to verbalize what their visions were for this Task Force and to submit their ideas on how it should be structured. He initiated discussion on the location of the next meeting and noted the agenda items for that meeting would be determined from the receipt of suggestions from entities identified today and previously. Chairman Diaz invited members to present recommendations for items to be placed on future agendas and to consider whether the Commission's resolution No. R-504-07 should be the first item of business at the next meeting.

Mr. Ferre moved a motion of confidence in the appointment of Mr. Victor M. Diaz, Jr., as the Chairman of this 2007 Charter Review Task Force by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners. This motion was seconded by Mr. Smith, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a unanimous vote of those members present.

Regarding parliamentary rules, Ms. Johnson-Stacks noted in 2001, no specific reference was made to the adoption of parliamentary rules. The committee worked on a consensus basis and when formal deliberations were held, the Mason's rules were applied to the extent necessary.

Ms. Armstrong-Coffey advised that most County Boards followed the rules that were in the Miami-Dade County Code for the Board of County Commissioners that was not detail specific. Since this Task Force was not a quasi-judicial or legislative body, it would not often need to engage in complicated provision; however, the County Attorney's Office would avail itself to administer the adoption of whatever set of rules the Task Force desired.

It was moved by Mr. Ferre that the 2007 Charter Review Task Force adopt Mason's as its governing parliamentary rules. This motion was seconded by Mayor Dermer for discussion.

Discussion ensued among members regarding the need for additional time to consider the issue, the need for a highly structured process, the need to empower the Chair, and the need to decide the structure at the next meeting rather than today.

Following Chairman Diaz' recommendation that this Task Force be governed by the standard rules that govern the County Commission, Mr. Ferre amended his motion to provide that the 2007 Charter Review Task Force be guided by the rules set forth in the County Code. This amended motion was seconded by Mayor Dermer, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a unanimous vote of those members present.

It was moved by Mr. Ferre that the Chair be required to appoint a parliamentarian if needed. This motion was seconded by Mayor Gibson.

Ms. Armstrong-Coffey suggested the County Attorney's Office be named as the parliamentarian for this Task Force.

Mr. Ferre amended the motion to provide that the Chair appoint the County Attorney's Office as the parliamentarian for this Task Force.

Mr. Ferre accepted Mr. DeGrandy's recommendation that rulings on questions of order be made by the Chair, subject to majority vote to overrule the Chair as a substitute motion. This motion, upon being put to a vote, passed by a unanimous vote of those members present.

It was moved by Mr. Smith that Chairman Diaz serve as the spokesperson for this Task Force. This motion was seconded by Ms. Soler-McKinley, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a unanimous vote of those members present.

Chairman Diaz asked each Task Force member to provide Assistant County Manager Susanne Torriente with a written document outlining their personal recommendations/suggestions for agenda items and identifying knowledgeable persons desired to address the Task Force. This information would be compiled and provided to each member in the meeting notebook. The information would then be correlated, assembled, and related to specific provisions of the Charter and presented as an agenda item at the next meeting.

Regarding the County Commission's mandate that members of the community be invited to participate in this process, Chairman Diaz emphasized the importance of prioritizing this requirement. He reiterated those County officials he had previously invited to make recommendations as to agenda items and invited members to provide their recommendations as to others who should be invited to suggest agenda items.

It was moved by Ms. Hernandez that the League of Cities be requested to provide recommendations. This motion was seconded by Mr. Ferre, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a unanimous vote.

It was moved by Mr. Ferre that a representative visit other metropolitan areas and spend time studying their best practices. This motion was seconded by Mayor Dermer for discussion.

Discussion ensued regarding the best and most timely approach to use in studying best practices and gaining knowledge from cities of excellence. Pertaining to suggestions that Task Force members visit other cities or bring representatives from those cities to Miami, it was pointed out that the Task Force had no established budget and that it would require Commission approval. Chairman Diaz asked that the motion be amended to reflect the study of the best practices, specifically Jacksonville or other comparable cities.

Upon Mr. DeGrandy's opposition to the Task Force considering this issue today, it was moved by Mr. Ferre that the six issues not discussed from his July 5th memorandum be tabled until the next meeting.

Mr. DeGrandy asked that a discussion item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting regarding the number and purpose of public meetings the Task Force would conduct.

Chairman Diaz confirmed that this would be on the agenda and discussion would include whether to invite public input at the front end or towards the back end.

Pertaining to an inquiry by Mr. Smith regarding establishing a date to stop accepting new proposals, Chairman Diaz noted the County Commission had requested the Task Force have recommendations within 180 days.

Chairman Diaz asked whether an item should be on the next meeting's agenda regarding the election of the offices of the Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, Sheriff, and Supervisor of Elections; or whether it should be deferred to the third meeting.

It was moved by Mayor Gibson that part of the agenda for the meeting on July 23, 2007 be devoted to beginning a substantive discussion of the proposals regarding the election of the offices of the Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, Sheriff, and Supervisor of Elections. This motion was seconded by Mr. Ferre, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a unanimous vote.

Discussion ensued regarding who should appear before the Task Force to speak on the pros and cons of the issue. It was determined that the four persons currently in those position should not be invited to speak due to conflicts of interest and restraints. It was suggested that they be invited to prepare written comments on the advantages of the position being non-elective in a professional capacity. It was also suggested that Mr. Ken Jennings be invited to submit comments regarding the advantages of those being elected positions. Suggestions to have persons brought in from other cities were discouraged due to the lack of a budget. Other suggestions included inviting input from the National League of Cities and the Conference of Mayors.

It was moved by Mayor Gibson that the current Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, Sheriff, and Supervisor of Elections be invited to submit written recommendations on the advantages of an appointed position; and that representatives of comparable positions in Broward County be invited to present in person or submit written recommendation on the advantages of elected versus appointed positions. This motion was seconded by Mr. Vazquez for discussion.

Mr. Holland's request that a scholar from a leading university with significant background be invited to take part of that discussion was deferred for separate discussion.

There being no further discussion on the motion, the Task Force proceeded to vote, which carried with a unanimous vote.

Discussion ensued regarding the recommendation to invite scholars from universities. It was pointed out that due to time constraints, a great number of speakers should not be invited and written recommendations should be requested.

Chairman Diaz recognized Senator Frederica Wilson who was present at today's meeting.

9. PROPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE

Chairman Diaz noted the next meeting was scheduled for July 23, 2007 in Conference Rooms 3 and 4 on the 18th Floor of the Stephen P. Clark Center.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Task Force, the meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Victor M. Diaz, Chairman
Charter Review Task Force