

Miami-Dade County Charter Review Task Force Meeting  
Monday, August 14, 2017  
Miami-Dade County  
Commission Chambers  
111 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
6:00 p.m.  
Agenda

- Reasonable Opportunity for the Public to be Heard
- Report on Budget (tentative based on ability to meet with Mayor pre-meeting)
- First group of action items
  - Should an elected County Mayor or a manager selected by the County Commission head and manage the County?<sup>1</sup>
    - If a manager selected by the County Commission should head and manage the County, how should the Charter provide for the selection of the manager, what powers should the manager have, and what powers should be retained by the County Mayor?
    - If an elected County Mayor should head and manage the County, should the Charter provide qualifications for someone seeking election as the Mayor? (requested by Task Force Member Alice Burch)

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<sup>1</sup> Supplement No. 1 is a publication of the National Civic League outlining the Model County Charter. It is important to note that the Model County Charter was created in 1990. Additionally, as noted in the introduction of the Model County Charter, it is impossible to prescribe a single basic law or charter equally applicable to all. This Model County Charter is solely offered as a resource.

The Model County Charter of the National Civic League endorses a government structure in which all the powers of the county are vested in the elected governing body, which appoints as the county's chief executive a professional manager, who is continuously responsible to, and removable by, the elected governing body.

The articles of the Model County Charter that pertain to the areas of study for the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting are the following:

- Article III – County Manager
- Article V – Financial Procedures

For more information on the National Civic League, please visit: <http://www.nationalcivicleague.org/>.

Supplement No. 2 is a survey conducted by the International City/County Management Association. The survey outlined in Supplement No. 2 pertains to county form of government. For more information on the International City/County Management Association, please visit:

<https://icma.org/>

- How can the budget and procurement processes be improved and how should the Finance Department be organized under either an elected County Mayor or appointed manager?<sup>2</sup>
- Approval of the Clerk's Summary of Minutes for the July 17, 2017 Charter Review Task Force Meeting
- Adjournment

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<sup>2</sup> Deputy Mayor Edward Marquez will be available to answer questions from the Task Force on the County's budget, procurement and finance processes. Deputy Mayor Marquez is responsible for overseeing the internal management functions of the County, which include the County's Management and Budget, Human Resources, Internal Services, Finance, Audit and Management and Information Technology departments. In addition to serving as Deputy Mayor, Mr. Marquez is also serving as Finance Director/CFO of the County.

## **Tallman, Nicole (Office of the Mayor)**

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**From:** webmaster@miamidade.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 2:05 PM  
**To:** Charter - Miami-Dade  
**Subject:** Charter Review Suggestions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Contact Person: **Elizabeth Garris**

E-mail: **imastartu@aol.com**

Contact Phone Number: **7862503536**

Home Address: **9361 Martinique DR**

City: **Cutler Bay**

State: **FI**

Zip Code: **33189**

Suggestions: **Our Federal Government is replete with corruption. We currently have some odious arrangements in local governments and we need to squelch them lest we look like the Trump Crime Family. Please prohibit campaign consultants from lobbying, and lobbyists from working as campaign consultants, and provide for PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.**

## Tallman, Nicole (Office of the Mayor)

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**From:** webmaster@miamidade.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 15, 2017 2:58 PM  
**To:** Charter - Miami-Dade  
**Subject:** Charter Review Suggestions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Contact Person: **JoAnne Linardi**

E-mail: **jolinardi1@gmail.com**

Contact Phone Number: **3052354994**

Home Address: **8711 SW 185 Terrace**

City: **Cutler Bay**

State: **FL**

Zip Code: **33157**

Suggestions: **Campaign consultants must be prohibited from lobbying!! Lobbyists should NEVER be working as campaign consultants, of course. There should be severe penalties for any violations, and that goes for any trail of money for any candidate connected to lobbyists, as well as the company for whom the lobbyist (or affiliate) is working. WE voted for incorporation because we DO NOT want disgusting "big government" politics in place here in OUR Cutler Bay. So why do we even have to point this out to our commission and mayor? Ridiculous.**

## **Tallman, Nicole (Office of the Mayor)**

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**From:** webmaster@miamidade.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 05, 2017 8:47 PM  
**To:** Charter - Miami-Dade  
**Subject:** Charter Review Suggestions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Contact Person: **Malcolm George**

E-mail: **zoomies2@comcast.net**

Contact Phone Number: **3052466867**

Home Address: **9049 SW 214th St**

City: **Cutler Bay**

State: **Florida**

Zip Code: **33189**

Suggestions: **Please prohibit campaign consultants from lobbying, and lobbyists from working as campaign consultants, and provide for penalties for violations.**

## Tallman, Nicole (Office of the Mayor)

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**From:** webmaster@miamidade.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** Charter - Miami-Dade  
**Subject:** Charter Review Suggestions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Contact Person: **Marcos Fullana**

E-mail: **marcos@choiceone.us**

Contact Phone Number:

Home Address: **20300 SW 80 Ave.**

City: **Cutler Bay**

State: **FL**

Zip Code: **33189**

Suggestions: **Since Miami-Dade County is updating their Charter, I ask the Charter Commission to please prohibit campaign consultants from lobbying, and lobbyists from working as campaign consultants, and provide for penalties for violations. Thank you in advance for your consideration, Marcos Fullana**

## **Tallman, Nicole (Office of the Mayor)**

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**From:** webmaster@miamidade.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 1:11 PM  
**To:** Charter - Miami-Dade  
**Subject:** Charter Review Suggestions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Contact Person: **Mark Wisby**

E-mail: **mswisby@bellsouth.net**

Contact Phone Number: **305-238-4312**

Home Address: **21121 SW 85 Ave, Unit 112**

City: **Cutler Bay**

State: **FL**

Zip Code: **33189**

Suggestions: **Please prohibit campaign consultants from lobbying, and lobbyists from working as campaign consultants, and provide for penalties for violations.**

## Tallman, Nicole (Office of the Mayor)

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**From:** webmaster@miamidade.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 16, 2017 5:42 PM  
**To:** Charter - Miami-Dade  
**Subject:** Charter Review Suggestions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Contact Person: **Mike Deacon**

E-mail: **tortugas66@gmail.com**

Contact Phone Number:

Home Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Suggestions: **Please prohibit campaign consultants from lobbying, and lobbyists from working as campaign consultants, and provide for penalties for violations**



## **Tallman, Nicole (Office of the Mayor)**

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**From:** webmaster@miamidade.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2017 9:20 PM  
**To:** Charter - Miami-Dade  
**Subject:** Charter Review Suggestions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Contact Person: **Patricia Broadhurst**

E-mail: **tishb43@hotmail.com**

Contact Phone Number: **7867184145**

Home Address: **10021 Dominican Drive**

City: **Miami**

State: **Florida**

Zip Code: **33189**

Suggestions: **Please prohibit campaign consultants from lobbying, and lobbyists from working as campaign consultants and provide for penalties for violations.**

## **Tallman, Nicole (Office of the Mayor)**

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**From:** webmaster@miamidade.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 10:31 AM  
**To:** Charter - Miami-Dade  
**Subject:** Charter Review Suggestions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Contact Person: **Vincent Martin**

E-mail: **zaidland@aol.com**

Contact Phone Number: **3056072688**

Home Address: **22465 SW 94th Place**

City: **Cutler Bay**

State: **FL**

Zip Code: **33190**

Suggestions: **Miami Dade Gov't Team, Me, as a home owner, tax payer and citizen of this County, I ask you prohibit campaign consultants from lobbying, and lobbyists from working as campaign consultants, and provide for penalties for violations. Sincerely, Vincent J. Martin**

## Tallman, Nicole (Office of the Mayor)

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**From:** webmaster@miamidade.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 11:53 PM  
**To:** Charter - Miami-Dade  
**Subject:** Charter Review Suggestions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Contact Person: **David Hiers**

E-mail: **hurrynot@hotmail.com**

Contact Phone Number: **3052513939**

Home Address: **10530 SW 204 Terrace**

City: **Cutler Bay**

State: **FL**

Zip Code: **33189**

Suggestions: **Please prohibit campaign consultants from lobbying, and lobbyists from working as campaign consultants, and provide for penalties for violations.**

MIAMI-DADE CHARTER REVIEW TASK FORCE  
CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 17, 2017

The Miami-Dade Charter Review Task Force (the Task Force) convened its second meeting on July 17, 2017, at the Miami-Dade County Stephen P. Clark Government Center, Commission Chambers, Second Floor, 111 N.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33128, at 6:05 p.m. Upon roll call, the following Task Force members were present: Ms. Alice Burch, Mr. George M. Burgess, Mr. Jeff P.H. Cazeau, Mr. Robert Cuevas, Mr. Alfredo J. Gonzalez, Mr. Luis E. Gonzalez, Mr. Marlon Hill, Mr. Neisen Kasdin, Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz, Mr. Mike Valdes-Fauli, and Mr. Eric Zichella. Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron and Mr. Maurice Ferre arrived late. Mr. William H. Kerdyk Jr. was absent. The Commission District 10 seat remained vacant.

In addition to Task Force members, the following staff members were present: Assistant County Attorneys Oren Rosenthal and Mike Valdez; Ms. Nicole Tallman, Director of Policy and Legislation and Ms. Patricia Flor, Senior Policy Analyst, Office of the Mayor; Mr. Christopher A. Agrippa, Director and Mr. Alan Eisenberg, Deputy Clerk, Office of the Clerk of the Board.

Mr. Christopher Agrippa announced that written notice was received from Mr. William H. Kerdyk Jr. that he would be absent from today's (7/17) meeting.

Commissioner Danielle Levine Cava was also present.

**WELCOME**

Ms. Nicole Tallman welcomed Task Force members and guest to the second Task Force meeting and led them in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Nicole Tallman noted the agenda and meeting materials were provided to Task Force members and suggested that the proposed agenda be followed.

**INTRODUCTON OF TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND STAFF**

Ms. Nicole Tallman asked Task Force Members and staff to introduce themselves.

**REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

Ms. Nicole Tallman opened the reasonable opportunity for the public to be heard.

Ms. Kathy Charles O'Sullivan, 15348 SW 165 Street, Miami, appeared before the Task Force,

noting this was an important process. She pointed out that her 2012 Task Force recommendation giving citizens the ability to issue complaints to the Office of Ethics and Public Trust was successfully adopted by the County voters. She commented on Board of County Commissioner censure as well as incorporation and annexation issues, noting these concerns were presented in writing to the Clerk of the Board.

Ms. Maggie Fernandez, 3620 SW 21 Street, Miami, commended the Task Force for scheduling evening meetings, noting efforts to increase participation was a request of the Peoples Charter Review Task Force. She suggested the Task Force considered increasing County Commissioner salaries; reviewing the Strong Mayor vs the Council/Manager form of government; implementing countywide elected commission seats; and increasing the number of commission seats.

Mr. Maribel Balbin, 8346 Dundee Terrace, Miami, appeared before the Task Force, representing herself and the League of Women Voters (League) as its Immediate Past President. She commented on the effectiveness of having boards that were more gender balanced than was the current Task Force and questioned whether the minority participation of the Task Force was representative of the community. She said that the League supported the Council/Manager form of government and that the method of collecting signatures for ballot petitions needed to be addressed.

Ms. Eileen Higgins, 253 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, #3909, Miami, Peoples Charter Review Task Force member, acknowledged the Task Force for holding evening meetings and keeping everyone engaged. She said that a solution was needed to enable the public to quickly, easily and effectively ask for change in campaign finance laws. Ms. Higgins commented on looking more deeply into government structure, noting most police chiefs were elected under the strong mayor form of government.

Mr. Deltravis L. Williams, 6231 SW 62 Terrace, Miami, appeared before the Task Force, noting County Commissioners should be adequately paid for full-time jobs and an appropriate salary should be put on the ballot. He said the County Commission should be reduced to nine members and the police chief should be elected.

Mr. Juan Cuba, 165 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Coral Gables, appeared before the Task Force as the Miami-Dade Democratic Party Chair. He indicated that in addition to suggestions already made, the Task Force should review the Mayor's Emergency Powers; should provide a dedicated funding source for the Independent Review Panel to look at police and other County misconduct; and a fair and balanced approach should be considered on the exemption voiding and protecting utilities for lights.

There being no other persons wishing to address the Task Force, the reasonable opportunity to be heard was closed.

## **SELECTION OF CHARTER REVIEW TASK FORCE CHAIR**

Assistant County Attorney Oren Rosenthal described the process to elect a Task Force Chair as set forth in the resolution establishing this body as well as the responsibilities of the position. He also suggested the selection of a Vice Chair.

In response to Mr. Maurice Ferre's question whether the Chair determined the agenda; Assistant County Attorney Rosenthal reported that the Chair would work with staff to set the initial agenda. He added that Task Force members could ask the Chair to make changes or additions to the agenda; however, it was the Chair's responsibility to control and shape the Task Force debate subject to the majority will of its members.

Ms. Alice Burch inquired whether any Task Force member would be unable to serve as its Chair.

No Task Force members indicated they were not able to serve in this capacity.

Mr. Christopher Agrippa mentioned that written ballots were available, if necessary.

Mr. Maurice Ferre commented that the Task Force Chair should not be a lobbyist or anyone representing an interest dealing with the County Commission, a County vendor, or anyone financially benefiting from a County Commission decision. He addressed the need for transparency and the ability for people to believe that no one serving as the Task Force Chair was supporting a particular position; even though he did not believe any Task Force member would do so. Mr. Ferre said he did not object to a written ballot even though ballots were signed by Task Force members. He commented that the County Commission did not previously pay much attention to Task Force recommendations.

Mr. Maurice Ferre nominated Mr. Robert Cuevas to serve as the Task Force Chair, noting he had the knowledge, the experience, the transparency and the confidence of this body.

Mr. Marlon Hill mentioned that he did not believe anyone should be excluded from serving on the Task Force and/or as its Chair unless that exclusion was included in the Charter.

Mr. George Burgess said he concurred with Mr. Marlon Hill, noting he did not believe any of the Task Force members had a personal/professional agenda they wanted to push. He stressed the need for a Vice Chair in addition to the Chair. Mr. Burgess stated the desire for the Task Force to become immersed in the entire Charter and not just a few topics. He commented on being careful in the selection of the Chair as this person would be driving the process.

Mr. Luis Gonzalez said he believed everyone on the Task Force would contribute what they believed would be in the County government's best interest based upon their personal experiences. He added that Task Force members would fairly represent the officials who appointed them and would be democratic in the process.

In response to Mr. Eric Zichella's question whether Mr. Robert Cuevas wanted to serve as the Task Force Chair, Mr. Cuevas said that he would like to do so and would devote the time necessary to serve in this capacity.

It was moved by Mr. Maurice Ferre that Mr. Robert Cuevas be nominated as the Task Force Chair. This motion was seconded by Mr. Luis Gonzalez.

It was subsequently moved by Mr. Maurice Ferre that the motion to nominate Mr. Maurice Ferre be unanimous, should there be no other nominations.

There being no further Task Force Chair nominations, Mr. Robert Cuevas was unanimously elected. This motion passed by a 12-0 vote. Mr. Neisen Kasdin and Mr. William Kerdyk Jr. were absent.

It was moved by Mr. Marlon Hill that Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz be nominated as Vice Chair. This motion was seconded by Mr. Eric Zichella, and upon being put to a vote, Ms. Lievano-Cruz was unanimously approved by a 12-0 vote. Mr. Neisen Kasdin and Mr. William Kerdyk Jr. were absent.

#### **COMMENTS/DISCUSSION BY TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

- **TASK FORCE ORGANIZATION, STRUCUTRE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

Chair Robert Cuevas reported that 21 areas of study items were already presented by some Task Force members; noting there was only eight months to study, receive public input and develop conclusions about the most important items to present to the County Commission. He suggested that Task Force members begin addressing the areas of study they considered most important and then narrow down the items by ballot.

Mr. Eric Zichella stated that Mr. Neisen Kasdin suggested receiving input from subject area experts on best practices at the previous (6/28) Task Force meeting. He said it would be premature to eliminate items until there was sufficient time to hear from the public and adequately consider those items.

Mr. Marlon Hill said he was interested in hearing from County residents in order to have a better understanding of this process and how it will make their lives and government run better. He addressed the need for public hearings to gather input and for Task Force members to provide input based upon their expertise. Mr. Hill commented that he did not support committees and that getting input from local experts needed to be expedited. He said public meetings should be scheduled to receive feedback and believed ideas for Task Force consideration would come forward from that process.

Mr. George Burgess mentioned that not everyone on the Task Force had the same intimate understanding of County government as he and some of his Task Force colleagues. He said that he did not believe everyone understood the uniqueness of Miami-Dade County and the powers contained in the County Charter. Mr. Burgess suggested that before narrowing down the number of issues, Task Force members should understand the powers existing in the Charter and how this made the County unique. He said that the Task Force was asked by the County Commission to review the Charter, not just some of it.

Mr. Mike Valdes-Fauli indicated that he believed the initial 21 areas of study needed to be reviewed before considering input from external experts.

Mr. Maurice Ferre added that there were many knowledgeable people in this community who could provide the Task Force members with their expertise. He said these individuals needed to be approached to see if they were willing to volunteer their time. Mr. Ferre commented on the original intent of the County Charter, noting its writers believed Miami-Dade County would be consolidated as was Jacksonville. He said the State of Florida granted vast powers to the County which most people did not understand and warranted a discussion. Mr. Ferre indicated that the Task Force could decide to consolidate all the cities, police and fire departments as well as to establish zoning regulations with overview over city zoning. He concurred with Mr. Burgess that the Charter needed to be reviewed. Mr. Ferre indicated that he did not believe the Task Force could address the same number of issues considered by the previous two task force's and should limit its number to no more than eleven, with only eight months to complete the work.

Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz suggested that an overview of the County Charter and a discussion on government organization best practices be presented at the next meeting. She mentioned that many items on the initial area of study list overlapped and could be narrowed down by staff and then ranked by Task Force members. Ms. Lievano-Cruz said that it was up to the County Commission to decide what goes on the ballot; therefore, we should present something that was thoroughly considered and which the Task Force believed would have a good chance to actually get on the ballot. She mentioned that although some items should be considered as part of the Charter review process, other items could be accomplished by the County Commission legislatively by ordinance.

Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron questioned best practices and the need to receive input about what other professionals believed best practices would be for our community, noting the decision should ultimately be what County residents wanted. He said it would be more appropriate to obtain information from experts on the best options to proceed once a course of action was selected. Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz clarified that there were organizations that analyzed government operations; determined the most successful forms of government; and provided advice on how to proceed. She said it was appropriate to obtain an analysis on the best approach from other experts.



Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron expressed concern that there could be an agenda behind the comments made by experts.

Mr. Alfredo Gonzalez commented that he would have liked to receive the emails with the areas of study recommendations earlier. He suggested that public outreach hearings be established throughout the County so that the Task Force could hear from the public before finalizing the potential items to be considered.

Mr. Eric Zichella stated that he wanted to discuss the structure of the County Charter, noting it defined the way the County worked and the roles and responsibilities of County departments. He said that he believed best practices meant hearing from other large counties about how they operated, including methods they used which differed from us.

Chair Robert Cuevas noted it appeared the Task Force wanted to obtain more public input before narrowing down the issues.

Chair Robert Cuevas commented that he believed the community faced major regional and countywide problems, noting Miami-Dade County was the only legal entity that could solve those problems. He said there were issues in the current government structure that hampered the County's ability to address those regional countywide problems. Chair Cuevas suggested the following Charter amendments be considered: 1) having a more countywide perspective on the County Commission; 2) having a professional manager/commission form of government; and 3) eliminating term limits.

Mr. Marlon Hill discussed the need to provide information on the County Charter in a manner that was easily understood by the general public, noting infographics and Instagram as options.

Mr. Mike Valdes-Fauli addressed the importance of making this process urgent to the voters, getting the word out about meetings and engaging the public.

Mr. Neisen Kasdin recommended getting into what the Task Force members defined as the major issues as soon as possible, noting members were selected to serve based upon their expertise. He commented that Miami-Dade County originally went north to Juneau Beach and that the current County boundaries were established approximately 100 years ago, noting the existing boundary may or may not be the rationale boundary for certain services today. Mr. Kasdin said that the Task Force should evaluate the services best delivered by County government; the services that should be provided by the cities; the services that should be transferred from the cities to the County; and the services that should be addressed at a level higher than the County.

Ms. Alice Burch commented on the interconnectivity of issues and the importance of effective marketing of Task Force efforts. She noted she looked forward to hearing from other Task Force

members what they believed were important issues to consider.

Mr. Mike Valdes-Fauli indicated that the Task Force could begin the process of narrowing down the list of items as well as reserve the right to consider compelling issues presented by the community later.

Mr. Maurice Ferre noted he concurred with Mr. Valdes-Fauli to consider both approaches at the same time.

It was moved by Mr. Eric Zichella that the Task Force grouped areas of study recommended by Task Force members for consideration; that future meetings focused on specific Charter issues identified by those groupings; and that the public spoke on any item they desired at each Task Force meeting. This motion was seconded by Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz.

Mr. Maurice Ferre commented that there were topics, such as Charter powers, regional items, strong mayor/manager form of government, as well as County Commission pay and term limits that were not on the list being considered.

Chair Robert Cuevas suggested placing all the suggested items on a ballot and each Task Force members selected their top five items.

Mr. George Burgess concurred that the Task Force should determine its initial focus tonight (7/17) as well as continued the process of obtaining additional public input.

Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz clarified the motion and addressed the need to establish meeting dates, times and locations.

Mr. Neisen Kasdin commented that Mr. Maurice Ferre identified areas needing examination, noting he would rather start with those items. He said that any additional items presented could be added to the discussion. Mr. Kasdin mentioned that people should speak on an item only when they had something important to say or add, noting he did not believe everyone needed to speak on every item.

Mr. Luis Gonzalez stated that there was a list of items; that the Task Force needed to begin its work; and that additional items could be added later.

Assistant County Attorney Oren Rosenthal clarified that the motion was to group areas of study submitted by Task Force members and to organize future meetings accordingly based upon those groupings.

Mr. Maurice Ferre asked that the item list be amended to add the five items he previously presented as well as an additional item relating to the County Commission structure.

Mr. Marlon Hill mentioned that there were issues presented by the public that also needed to be considered.

Mr. Maurice Ferre added to also include items presented in writing and items stated tonight (7/17) by both the Task Force members and members of the public to his amendment.

Mr. Mike Valdes-Fauli said that there was also a suggestion to maintain an open line of communication over items presented at future public meetings and to add new items to the Task Force's areas of study as identified.

Mr. Maurice Ferre also added Mr. Valdes-Fauli's suggestion to the amendment.

Hearing no further questions or discussion, the Task Force proceeded to vote.

It was moved by Mr. Maurice Ferre that the motion as presented by Mr. Eric Zichella and amended by Mr. Maurice Ferre was accepted by Mr. Zichella. This motion was seconded by Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron and upon being put to a vote passed by a vote of 12-1. Chair Cuevas voted "No". Mr. William Kerdyk Jr. was absent.

- **MEETING SCHEDULE**

Mr. Alfredo Gonzalez commented on having evening Task Force meetings in the Commission Chambers with public input. He expressed concern over not having a quorum as a result of too many meetings scheduled. Mr. Gonzalez noted a discussion at the previous Task Force meeting to schedule policy decision meetings with the goal of having maximum Task Force member attendance and also to schedule regional fact finding meetings which did not require a quorum of Task Force members, yet members were encouraged to participate. He said the future meeting structure needed to be determined.

Mr. Maurice Ferre said that the committee structure permitted community meetings to be held without having a quorum of Task Force members, noting the difficulty associated with having all members attend every meeting.

Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz indicated that she did not support committees, noting there was not enough time for this process and believed it would be confusing to the public. She said the Task Force should pick a specific meeting day and let public know this schedule in advance. Ms. Lievano-Cruz mentioned her preference was for evening meetings in order to maximize participation. She suggested the required regional meetings be scheduled closer to the end of the process.

In response to Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz' question about the timeline, Assistant County Attorney Oren Rosenthal reported that the Task Force's timeframe was one year after its March 2017

creation. He suggested the Task Force should plan on finishing its work and prepare its report by February 2018. Assistant County Attorney Rosenthal added that either regional meetings or meetings in a centralized location with audio visual and telecommunication support were required before finalizing the Task Force's preliminary recommendations.

Mr. Neisen Kasdin said he would like the Chair to develop a proposed meeting schedule and timeline. He commented that so far the Task Force had not engaged in any substantive discussion, noting the Chair should lead the Task Force in proper procedures moving forward.

Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz stated that she believed the Task Force members would be criticized for not attending community meetings. She suggested beginning the process with two monthly Task Force meetings.

Ms. Alice Burch concurred with the need for a specific meeting schedule at a location where meetings could be recorded. She questioned whether August meetings would be appropriate as many government bodies did not meet during this period. Ms. Burch pointed out that the public needed to be informed in advance that not all Task Force members had to attend the regional meetings.

Mr. Maurice Ferre mentioned that more than three regional meetings were needed due to the County's large size. He suggested having four meetings; one in Aventura, one in Miami Gardens, one in West Kendall, and one further south. Mr. Ferre said that the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX) facility was available for meetings, noting they were already equipped to televise meetings and centrally located.

Chair Robert Cuevas suggested that two monthly meetings be scheduled on the second and fourth Monday of the month for the next three months from 6:00 p.m. through 9:00 p.m.

Ms. Nicole Tallman advised Chair Robert Cuevas that the Commission Chambers appeared available for the requested dates; however, she would confirm availability with the County Commission Chair's office.

The following meeting dates were announced: August 14, 2017; August 28, 2017; September 11, 2017; September 25, 2017; October 16, 2017; and October 23, 2017.

Mr. Luis Gonzalez inquired whether there was any interest in using the MDX facility as suggested by Mr. Ferre, noting its proximity to Metrorail.

Chair Cuevas suggested that the initial six meetings be held in the Commission Chambers and a decision to use other locations would be determined later.

Mr. Eric Zichella mentioned his desire to hold regional meetings sooner. He said he was

committed to making every effort to attend all meetings regardless of location.

In response to Mr. George Burgess' question whether meetings were televised, Ms. Nicole Tallman reported that meetings held in the Commission Chambers were televised live and on Facebook live. She said all Miami-Dade communications capabilities were available to the Task Force in this facility.

- **AREAS OF STUDY**

Mr. Maurice Ferre pointed out that Mr. Terry Murphy was in the audience, noting he and other individuals including Ms. Susanne Torriente already studied these issues. He requested Chair Robert Cuevas worked with County staff to identify appropriate individuals who could assist the Task Force in their efforts.

Mr. George Burgess clarified the request was for Chair Robert Cuevas to look at topical areas and obtain subject area experts.

Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron cautioned that experts often came with an agenda that might not be the same as the general public.

Mr. Maurice Ferre mentioned that former County Attorney Robert Ginsburg was currently an Orange County judge handling zoning matters, noting he should share this approach with the Task Force.

In response to Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz' question whether staff had the opportunity to explore the National Civic League's ability to provide assistance to the Task Force, Ms. Nicole Tallman reported that she believed all areas of study would be determined before assigning the appropriate experts to those issues.

Mr. Maurice Ferre stated that the League of Cities, the Conference of Mayors, and the National Association of Counties should also be approached.

Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz asked Ms. Nicole Tallman to reach out to these organizations to express the Task Force's interest in obtaining their assistance.

Ms. Nicole Tallman stated that there was no budget to support bringing experts to assist the Task Force and any assistance they provided would need to be at no cost.

Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron inquired whether the selected experts would provide information on the topics identified by the Task Force or would they present their own agenda as to what the Task Force should be doing.

Mr. Maurice Ferre indicated that the Task Force would have a list of items that would be given to the experts to review. He said these experts would provide information based upon the areas identified.

Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz pointed out that experts could provide advice on some items but it was not relevant for all topics.

### **STAFF REPORT ON BUDGET AND TECHNOLOGICAL AND COMMUNICATON RESOURCES**

Ms. Nicole Tallman reported that there was no Task Force budget. She commented that all meetings held in the Commission Chambers would be televised and instantly streamed on Facebook Live. Ms. Tallman mentioned that video quality was not guaranteed and that additional resources were needed when using outside facilities. She added that additional staffing costs and other expenses were associated with holding meetings outside normal working hours.

Ms. Nicole Tallman stated that she encouraged the Communications Department staff to use the hash tag CRTF17 when posting Task Force information on social media. She indicated that there may be Sunshine Law violation issues when Task Force members used social media and asked the Assistant County Attorney to provide some guidance.

Assistant County Attorney Oren Rosenthal emphasized that social media can become a non-Sunshine communication method between Task Force members on substantive areas. He said that it can be a useful tool for the public to advise the Task Force of their interest. Assistant County Attorney Rosenthal cautioned Task Force members from engaging in substantive conversation about the issues being considered by the Task Force. He advised Task Force members not to talk about substantive matters on social media and to allow County staff to participate in the conversation at the Task Force's direction.

Mr. George Burgess commented and Assistant County Attorney Rosenthal concurred that it would be a good idea for Task Force members not to comment at all.

Ms. Alice Burch pointed out that Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava was an expert at the use of social media and communicating with the public. She commented that the County Communications staff could engage the public and encourage them to attend Task Force meetings in a similar manner.

Mr. Marlon Hill expressed concern over restricting Task Force members from using any available communications tools while understanding the limitations or restrictions of the law. He said social media was here and we needed to figure out a creative way to communicate with the public, especially since there was no budget to do so. Mr. Hill stated it was a disservice to the

public to ignore social media use, noting he would like to learn more about how to effectively use social media without violating the Sunshine Law.

Mr. Alfredo Gonzalez concurred with Mr. Marlon Hill, noting social media was a form of communicating to the public what was going on in government. He said that Task Force members needed to use social media in a manner that would not create a Sunshine Law violation.

Assistant County Attorney Oren Rosenthal clarified that the Task Force could promote meetings and forward reports on social media; however, expressed concern over Task Force members engaging in any back and forth dialogue with one another. He pointed out that Task Force members could ask for public input but should not comment or like those posts. Assistant County Attorney Rosenthal advised Task Force members that the County Attorney and the Commission on Ethics & Public Trust was available to assist them with any specific questions.

Mr. Maurice Ferre stated that having no budget was not acceptable, noting previous Charter Review Task Forces had one. He suggested that each County Commissioner contributed \$5,000 and the County Mayor contributed \$10,000 toward this effort, noting it was his desire to present this request as a motion.

Chair Robert Cuevas advised Mr. Maurice Ferre from presenting a budget request as a formal motion, noting the Task Force was trying to develop recommendations for the County Commission's acceptance and it might not be prudent to antagonize the Commission.

Mr. Maurice Ferre said that it would be difficult to approach experts to provide assistance and travel to Miami without a budget.

Mr. George Burgess mentioned that he did not believe a specific budget was necessary to bring an expert before the Task Force, noting there were other budget resources that could be used.

Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron questioned the method to acquire these resources.

Mr. George Burgess commented that there would need to be a conversation with the County Mayor and he would need to be comfortable with the request.

It was moved by Mr. Maurice Ferre that Chair Robert Cuevas and Ms. Nicole Tallman approached Mayor Carlos Gimenez about available budget resources to support Task Force efforts and follow-up with a report of that conversation. This motion was seconded by Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-1. Chair Robert Cuevas voted "No". Mr. William Kerdyk Jr. and Mr. Mike Valdes-Fauli were absent.

Following the vote, Mr. Eric Zichella commented that the Task Force wanted to take advantage of technology to obtain public comments and feedback. He expressed concern that not a lot of

people would attend Task Force meetings; however, he did not believe that this was reflective of the number of people in the community that cared about these efforts. Mr. Zichella said that it was important to be creative with social media while limiting costs and receive as many comments from the public as possible without showing up for meetings.

Ms. Alice Burch stated that the public wanted to receive information over their phones and encouraged staff to effectively get the word out about future meetings and public input was welcomed.

Mr. Neisen Kasdin recommended that the Task Force first developed a product and then requested specific financial resources as needed.

In response to Mr. Carlos Diaz-Padron's inquiry about promoting the next Task Force meeting, Ms. Nicole Tallman said that meetings would be posted on social media, the County website, the County Mayor's website, as well as County Commission media outlets and Twitter accounts.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE CLERK'S SUMMARY OF MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 28, 2017 CHARTER REVIEW TASK FORCE MEETING**

It was moved by Mr. Eric Zichella that the Task Force meeting minutes from June 28, 2017 be approved. This motion was seconded by Mr. Alfredo Gonzalez

Mr. Marlon Hill asked that a correction be made to replace "March 26, 2017" with "March 26, 2018" on the 3<sup>rd</sup> line of the 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph on Page 5.

Upon being put to a vote, the motion to approve the meeting minutes passed as amended by a vote of 12-0. Mr. William Kerdyk Jr. was absent.

Mr. Maurice Ferre commented on the substantive content of the meeting minutes.

#### **OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mr. Eric Zichella questioned whether the Task Force could vote on specific items as considered and then forward those items to the County Commission throughout the process rather than as part of the final report.

Ms. Alice Burch asked Ms. Nicole Tallman to provide a report as to which ballot changes were placed on the ballot by initiative petition and which by task force recommendation following the 2012 Task Force process. She commented that a final Task Force report was required even though some recommendations might be presented to the County Commission throughout the process.



Ms. Maria Lievano-Cruz suggested that commissioner salaries should be included as an agenda item for the next meeting in addition to grouping future areas of study.

Mr. Neisen Kasdin noted that he believed future meetings would be more substantive.

Mr. Maurice Ferre recommended that people running for Commission seats should come from a region; that there was a regional representative chosen through a primary election; and that the top two were elected countywide. He said although he supported increased commissioner salaries, it would be dependent upon whether this change was implemented.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Charter Review Task Force meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.