

City of Portland Charter Review Commission
Subcommittee on Police Accountability

Meeting #1
Jan 9 2012 6:00PM-8:00PM

Group introduced themselves and shared why they attended the meeting
Jo Ann Hardesty provided an overview of the Charter Review Commission. Charter Commission was formed Dec 2010 and begun its work in Jan 2011. The CRC was charged with (1) reviewing administrative changes to the charter, (2) developing a process to ensure that a diverse citizen pool will be including in all future charter review commissions (3) developing a list of policy issues for the next CRC. CRC members then determined through reading the charter and testimony by former mayor Tom Potter that the city was prohibited from narrowing the scope of the CRC's work.

Chapter 13 Article 3, section 13-301 reads in part "*The Mayor or Council may request that the charter commission review specific sections of the Charter, but the work and recommendations of the Charter Commission shall not be limited to such specific sections.*"

Almost half of the original members of this CRC have been replaced (they made a 6 month commitment). The City council appointed new members in July & August so our current commission has a majority of its members who want to complete our work before we are disband. Although the Mayor has proposed the CRC conclude it's work by March 3rd 2012 the majority of commissioners have agreed to continue to work on the below listed issues until we feel we have reached a logical conclusion by not later that June 30th 2012 so that we meet the statutory requirements to make the general election ballot in November 2012.

The Mayor has privately stated that he would not fund the Police Accountability or the Rank Voting work because he didn't support these efforts. The CRC has determined that we work for the people of Portland, not the mayor so we will continue to address the issues that the public brings to the charter review process. We plan to accomplish this work within the budget constraints that have been set for the CRC.

Current charter commissioners are working to address several policy issues including:

1. Rank voting (Instant Runoff Voting)
2. Office of ombudsman independence through Charter Review process
3. Human Rights Commission independence through Charter Review process
4. Police Accountability

This subcommittee of the Charter Review Commission has four commissioners who have agreed to participate. Three of them are present tonight. They are Hank Miggins, Rich Rogers and Jo Ann Hardesty. Sattie Davis will join the group as time allows.

Participants brainstormed potential changes that maybe presented to the Charter Commission and ultimately to the voters of Portland at the general election in 2012.

Brainstorm list of potential policy changes to Portland Police Bureau. I have organized the brainstorm list into categories to cluster like issues together.

Civilian Oversight:

- City of Portland will have an adequately staff civilian agency to address police misconduct issues.
- City of Portland will make the Independent Police Review (IPR) Director an elected position.
- IPR Director has a right to independent counsel
- Independent civilian agencies have the ability to discipline officers and recommend policy changes to the city council.
- Independent agency will perform intake of police misconduct cases, policy issues and other efforts to fulfill its mission
- Citizen review process to review and advise on weapon purchases

Grand Jury:

- Portland Police officers who are suspected of misconduct will be required to attend a grand jury outside of Multnomah County.
- Require an independent district attorney to review Portland Police misconduct cases.

Ban list:

- Ban the use of tear gas in crowd control situations
- Ban the use of animals as weapons in crowd control situations
- Ban the use of bicycles in crowd control situations

Additional issues:

- Re-establishment of citizen's constitutional rights
- Require drug testing of all officers in a use of force process
- Portland Police should be required to live within the city limits.
- Require psychological testing every 2-5 years.
- Require employees to reflect the demographics of the city of Portland

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Participants broke out into small groups to discuss Civilian Oversight, Ban list & miscellaneous issues,

Commissioners Hank Miggins and Rich Rogers were also in attendance and shared their perspective on the work of this subcommittee.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday January 18th 2012 from 6:00PM-8:00PM at City Hall Rose Room 3rd floor.

Participants were provided contact information for the US Department of Justice that is currently investigating the patterns and practices of Portland Police. Participants were Encouraged to contact the department of justice directly if they have information to share.

DOJ contact information:

Community.portland@usdoj.gov 1-877-218-5228