

Pinellas County Charter Review Commission

Charter Amendment # 1

Future Charter Review Commissions

Section 6.03 of the Pinellas County charter, as created by Chapter 80-590, Laws of Florida, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6.03. Charter review commission.

(a) ~~During the month of December, 1985~~Not later than August 1 of the year 2015 and every ~~six~~eight (68) years thereafter, there shall be established a charter review commission composed of thirteen (13) members. The members of the commission shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners of Pinellas County from the following groups:

One (1) member from the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation residing in Pinellas County;

One (1) constitutional officer;

One (1) member from the elected city officials;

One (1) member from the elected board of county commissioners;

Nine (9) members from the public at large, none of whom shall be an elected official.

Vacancies shall be filled within thirty (30) days in the same manner as the original appointments.

(b) Each charter review commission shall meet prior to the end of the third week in ~~January 1986~~, August 2015, and every ~~six~~eight (68) years thereafter for the purposes of organization. The charter review commission shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership. Further meetings of the commission shall be held upon the call of chairman or any three (3) members of the commission. All meetings shall be open to the public. A majority of the members of the charter review commission shall constitute a quorum. The commission may adopt other rules for its operations and proceedings as it deems desirable. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses pursuant to law.

(c) Expenses of the charter review commission shall be verified by a majority vote of the commission and forwarded to the board of county commissioners for payment from the general fund of the county. The board of county commissioners shall provide space, secretarial and staff assistance. The board of county commissioners may

accept funds, grants, gifts, and services for the charter review commission from the state, the government of the United States, or other sources, public or private.

(d) The charter review commission shall review, on behalf of the citizens of Pinellas County, the operation of county government in order to recommend amendments to this Charter, if any.

(e) Each charter review commission established pursuant to this section shall complete its review and submit a report to the citizens of Pinellas County by July 31, ~~1986~~2016, and each ~~six~~eight (68) years thereafter in order to coincide with the presidential election cycle. Included within the report shall be any proposed amendments to the Charter, together with the wording of the question or questions which shall be voted on at referendum. Proposed amendments may, at the discretion of the charter review commission, be included in a single question or multiple questions. If proposed amendments are included in the report, the charter review commission may, at its discretion, remain constituted through the general election. The board of county commissioners shall call a referendum election to be held in conjunction with the ~~1986~~2016 general election and each ~~six~~eight (68) years thereafter, for the purpose of voting on the proposal or proposals submitted by the charter review commission. Notice of each such referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed

amendment or amendments as submitted in the report of the charter review commission, shall be published by the board of county commissioners once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty-five (45) days prior to the referendum. If an amendment or revision to the charter is to be recommended, the charter review commission shall conduct at least two (2) public hearings on any amendment or revision, at intervals of not less than ten (10) days but not more than twenty-one (21) days, immediately prior to its transmittal of its recommendations to the board of county commissioners. Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.

This amendment shall take effect upon approval by a majority vote of the electors of Pinellas County voting in a referendum election on November 2, 2010.

COUNTY CHARTER AMENDMENT

SECTION 6.03

Ballot Title: Requires Hearings For Pinellas Charter Commission, Lengthens Time Between Sessions And Allows Continuation Until Election

BALLOT QUESTION: Shall section 6.03 of the Pinellas County Charter be amended to lengthen time between sessions of the charter review commission from six (6) to eight (8) years to coincide with the presidential election cycle to allow it to remain constituted through the general election and require at least two (2) public hearings prior to its transmittal of its recommendations to the board of county commissioners?

YES

NO