

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
MAY 11, 2009

Mayor Rothschild called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Ms. Frankie B. Goldberg
Mr. Steven D. Bullock
Mr. Peter R. Bernardo
Mr. Frank Consolo
Mr. Kevin Patrick Murphy
Mr. Steven Sims

Absent: Mrs. Adele H. Zucker

Also Present: Clerk of Council Nancy E. English
Community Coordinator Walter Stinson
CRC Chairman Harvey Morrison

MOTION BY MR. BULLOCK, SECONDED BY MR. BERNARDO to excuse the absence of Mrs. Zucker. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Agenda Item:

- A. Ordinance No. 2009-27 Amending Ordinance No. 2008-45, directing the Charter Review Commission to hold two public hearings on its draft report and recommendations for amendments to the Charter; setting forth requirements for public notice of the hearings and distribution of the draft report; setting forth procedure for conducting the hearings; setting forth procedure for amending the draft report and extending the deadline for submission of the final report to Council**

Ordinance No. 2009-27 amends Ordinance No. 2008-45, which established the Charter Review Commission (CRC). Mr. Consolo stated that the ordinance came out of the Civic Information Committee meeting held on Friday, May 8, 2009. He noted that the purpose of the ordinance was to direct the Charter Review Commission to hold two (2) public hearings on its draft report, to assure that copies of the draft report will be provided to the public prior to each public hearing, and to extend the time period of the of the CRC in the event the draft report needs to be amended after the public hearings. The first public hearing will be held on May 19, 2009 at Wiley Middle School, 2181 Miramar Blvd., from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. The second hearing will be held on June 2, 2009 at a location to be determined from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

Mr. Consolo stated the ordinance also provides that the City will provide five hundred (500) copies of the draft report and make them available at City Hall and on a table at the Memorial Day Parade festivities at John Carroll University on May 25, 2009. He added that a copy of the draft report will also be prominently displayed on the City’s website.

The ordinance also set forth requirements for notification to residents of the availability of the draft report and the locations and times when it can be inspected or picked up. Mr. Consolo noted that the ordinance directs the Clerk of Council to utilize the CityWatch communication system and email on May 14, 21 and 28, 2009 to notify residents of the availability of the draft report, the location and times when it may be inspected and/or picked up.

Further, the ordinance amends Ordinance No. 2008-45 to extend the June 5, 2009 deadline for submission of the final report to Council to June 30, 2009.

Mr. Harvey Morrison, chairman of the Charter Review Commission, stated that the Commission will most likely complete its work prior to June 30, 2009. He requested that Section 3 of the ordinance be amended to stipulate that the commission shall “hear” from the residents instead of “accept comments and questions.” Mr. Consolo stated that he would like the commission to seriously consider any new proposals and not just listen to what the residents might have to say without deliberating on them. Mr. Bullock suggested using the phrase, “hear proposal for consideration.” Mr. Bernardo also requested that the words, “not previously presented to the CRC during its public meetings” be deleted from the second sentence in Section 3 because he would like the commission to hear all proposals even if they were previously brought up. There was discussion of how the matter will be handled at the public hearing so that the everyone feels their comments are being or have been considered.

The first two (2) sentences of Section 3 were amended to read, “At the public hearings the CRC shall hear proposals for consideration from residents concerning the recommendations for amendments to the Charter contained in the draft report and explain the rationale of each recommendation. The CRC shall also hear proposals for consideration from residents for specific amendments to the Charter.”

Mr. Consolo noted two additional amendments: the word “business” was replaced with the words “its meeting” in the ninth WHEREAS clause and also in Section 1.

MOTION BY MR. CONSOLO, SECONDED BY MR. BERNARDO to approve Ordinance No. 2009-27, as amended. On roll call, on suspension of rules, all voted “aye.” On roll call, on passage, all voted “aye.”

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Beryl E. Rothschild

Nancy E. English, Clerk of Council