

Charter Commission

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

Honolulu Hale • 530 South King Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



SUBMISSION AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 28, 2016, 2:30 PM
Originally Convened on NOVEMBER 22, 2016
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM
HONOLULU HALE

MINUTES

Submission and Information Committee Voting Members Present:

John D. Waihee, III, Chair
Cheryl D. Soon, Vice Chair
Kevin Mulligan
Nathan Okubo

Submission and Information Committee Voting Members Not Present

Reginald V. Castanares, Jr.

Submission and Information Committee Nonvoting Members Present:

Dave Rae
R. Brian Tsujimura

Others Present:

Donna Leong, Corporation Counsel
Megan Muramatsu, Managing Director's Office
Linda Luli Nakasone Oamilda, Executive Administrator, Honolulu Charter Commission
Mary James, Researcher, Honolulu Charter Commission
Norma Reyes, Secretary, Honolulu Charter Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Kevin Mulligan, Dave Rae, John Waihee, Nathan Okubo and Rick Tsujimura.

With a quorum present, Governor Waihee called the meeting to order at 2:35 P.M.

III. FOR DISCUSSION

- *Election Results*
Presentation by the City Clerk.
- *Legal Requirements*
Presentation by the Department of the Corporation Counsel on the final requirements for the Charter Commission and the procedures for amending the Charter and the steps to implement the Charter proposals.
- *Public Education*
Presentation by Stryker Weiner & Yokota Public Relations, Inc., on its media and public relations program to educate the public about the proposed Charter amendments.
- *Draft Final Report of the 2015-2016 Charter Commission.*

Governor Waihee explained that the purpose of the November 22, 2016, meeting and today's continuation of that meeting was to discuss the Final Report of the Commission. There was no testimony. He noted that the only business left was the discussion of the Legal Requirements as presented by the Corporation Counsel. Governor Waihee asked if there were any objections to waiving the privilege as discussed in an earlier letter from the Corporation Counsel. There were no objections. Commissioner Soon arrived at 2:40 p.m.

Corporation Counsel, Donna Leong, summarized the effective dates for the various amendments that passed in the previous election. She explained that if there were no specific effective date provided in a proposal, it would take effect upon certification by the City Clerk, which could be as early as November 29, 2016. She noted that four amendments contained effective dates. These were Amendment #4, relating to the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation, Amendment #9, relating to the Honolulu Zoo, Amendment #11 relating to the Clean Water and Natural Lands Fund, and Amendment #20b, relating to the publication of an updated Charter.

Corporation Counsel Leong outlined the remaining duties of the Charter Commission. Prior to the election, the Charter Commission's duties were to solicit proposals, draft digests of the proposals and provide public notice that copies of the proposals were

available. By rule, the Commission cannot explain or interpret the proposals after their passage. However, she pointed out that the Charter Commission minutes and Final Report had often been referred to for interpretation. She summarized the duties of the Commission after the election as adopting the minutes, approving the budget and drafting the Final Report. After the Commission's work was finished, it would be up to the City Council to implement the changes to the Charter.

Commissioner Soon asked when the Charter would be updated. Corporation Counsel Leong said no later than the July 1, 2017, deadline, but hopefully before that. The Corporation Counsel also explained that she has designated the online copy of the Charter as the official copy, making it easily available to the public.

Governor Waihee thanked the Corporation Counsel for her input into the Charter process along with her staff's input. He pointed out that the Commission's goal was to provide a Final Report that would be useful for the next Charter Commission and requested that if anyone in the Department of the Corporation Counsel had any recommendations about the Charter Commission process or any other specific topic that they provide that to staff as soon as possible.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Governor Waihee said he hoped that suggestions for the next Commission, whether from the Department or the Commissioners, could be provided by Wednesday, November 30, so that they could be included in the Final Report which he hoped could be approved by the following week.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 2:50 P.M.