



**CITY OF WEST MIAMI
MINUTES**

CHARTER REVIEW BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2017

6:00 PM

COMMISSION CHAMBERS

901 S.W. 62ND AVENUE

WEST MIAMI, FLORIDA

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2. ROLL CALL.** The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M. Present were Mayor Eduardo H. Muhiña, Vice-Mayor Candida Blanca, Commissioner Juan M. Blanes, Commissioner Rhonda A. Rodriguez and Commissioner Luciano L. Suarez.

Present also were:

Member Antonia Chavez
Member Natalie Milian
Member Ralph Orelle
Member Joe Paz
Alternate Member Zachariah Evangelista
City Manager Yolanda Aguilar
City Attorney Jose A. Villalobos
City Clerk Annery Gonzalez was excused
Member Eugenio Gonzalez was excused

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: The Mayor appointed the City Manager as Acting Clerk in the absence of the City Clerk.

- 3. CITIZENS PRESENTATIONS.** No presentations.
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 16TH, 2017 MEETING.** Upon motion by Vice-Mayor Blanca, second by Commissioner Suarez, the minutes were approved unanimously.
- 5. SWEARING-IN OF:**

MEMBER RALPH ORELLE. Oath administered by Acting Clerk Yolanda Aguilar.

MEMBER JOSE PAZ. Oath administered by Acting Clerk Yolanda Aguilar.

ALTERNATE MEMBER ZACHARIAH EVANGELISTA. Oath administered by Acting Clerk Yolanda Aguilar.



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6. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. OPENING REMARKS.** The Mayor gave the opening remarks wishing everyone a recovery in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.
The Mayor further expressed his thoughts regarding the possibility of postponing the ballot questions derived from the Charter Review Board's decision until the November elections in lieu of the West Miami Municipal Elections on April 2018.
The City Manager clarified an inquiry about compliance with deadlines questions.
The City Attorney read Section 7.06 of the Charter, named Charter Review Board.
After a lengthy discussion Commissioner Suarez motioned to bring the proposed Charter Amendments at the West Miami Municipal Elections of April 10th, 2018. Due to lack of a second the motion died.
- B. Schedule of next Charter Review Board meeting.** After a brief discussion all were in favor of holding the next Charter Review Board meeting on October 4th, 2017 at 6:00 P.M.
- C. Review Charter Review Board organization structure.** Discussed
- D. Revisit issues discussed at Charter Review Board meeting of August 16th, 2017.** The City Attorney expressed he had recommended at the above mentioned meeting to get acquainted with the Charter and bring recommendations and/or suggested changes.
- E. Review Section 3.01 - City Commission; powers, compositions.** Not discussed.
- F. Review Section 3.02 - Qualifications.** Not discussed.
- G. Review Section 3.03 - Election; separate groups; offices; and terms.** Not discussed.
- H. Review Section 3.04 - Compensation and expenses.** Member Milian recommended on this section to increase the amount of compensation, without a suggested amount, and to allow a per diem.
Commissioner Suarez further recommended the following language on a possible ballot question and made a motion for approval as follows:
- Since 1946 members of the City Commission and Planning and Zoning Board receive compensation in the amount of \$ 20.00 and \$ 15.00 respectively per meeting on attendance, until such is changed by the Council by Resolution.**
- Members of Council may be excused with compensation for not more than two (2) meetings during each year of the member's term of office. Members of Council shall not receive compensation for attendance at not more than thirty (30) meetings during any fiscal year.**



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After a lengthy discussion Member Evangelista suggested language to include CPI Adjustment.

Commissioner Rodriguez proposed a friendly amendment to leave the Planning and Zoning Board' compensation to be considered as part of Ordinance # 282 and not the Charter.

NOTE : Words stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] shall be deleted. Words underscored, underlined and/or >>double arrowed<< constitute the amendment proposed. Remaining provisions are now in effect and remain unchanged.

Member Chavez then motioned for the following language on the first paragraph of Section 3.04 of the Charter:

Members of the Council shall receive compensation in the amount of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per meeting, on attendance, until such is changed by the Council ~~in accordance with the provisions of this Charter~~ by Resolution. ~~Members of Council may be excused with compensation for not more than two (2) meetings during each year of the member's term of office.~~ Members of Council shall not receive compensation for attendance at not more than thirty (30) meetings during any fiscal year.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Suarez. And the vote was as follows:

Mayor Muñiña, Vice-Mayor Blanca, Commissioner Blanes, Commissioner Rodriguez, Commissioner Suarez, Member Chavez, Member Milian, Member Orelle and Member Paz voted yes. Alternate Member Evangelista voted no. Motion passed.

No changes were made to the second paragraph of Section 3.08.

Commissioner Suarez motioned in favor of the following language amending the third paragraph of Section 3.08 as follows:

The Council may, at a regularly called meeting and by a four-fifths (4/5) affirmative vote, approve additional expenses for Council members for travel and/or per diem expenses within the State of Florida, provided, however, such travel and per diem expenses are for the direct benefit and/or direct city business. ~~It is not the intent hereby to permit payment of expenses and/or per diem expenses for travel for attendance at seminars, conventions, dinners, for lobbying purposes or for other such uses.~~ Expenses for travel and/or per diem expenses shall be limited to that as is provided for within the Statutes of the State of Florida.



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Commissioner Rodriguez made a friendly amendment as follows:

The Council may, at a regularly called meeting and by a four-fifths (4/5) affirmative vote, approve additional all expenses for Council members for travel and/or per diem expenses within the State of Florida, provided, however, such travel and per diem expenses are for the direct benefit and/or direct city business. ~~It is not the intent hereby to permit payment of expenses and/or per diem expenses for travel for attendance at seminars, conventions, dinners, for lobbying purposes or for other such uses. Expenses for travel and/or per diem expenses shall be limited to that as is provided for within the Statutes of the State of Florida.~~

Member Milian presented the following friendly amendment:

The Council may, at a regularly called meeting and by a four-fifths (4/5) affirmative vote, approve additional all expenses for Council members for travel and/or per diem expenses ~~within the State of Florida~~, provided, however, such travel and per diem expenses are for the direct benefit and/or direct city business. ~~It is not the intent hereby to permit payment of expenses and/or per diem expenses for travel for attendance at seminars, conventions, dinners, for lobbying purposes or for other such uses. Expenses for travel and/or per diem expenses shall be limited to that as is provided for within the Statutes of the State of Florida.~~

Member Chavez made comments ratifying the Member Milian's amendment.

Member Milian seconded the motion made by Commissioner Suarez with the friendly amendments and the vote was as follows:

Mayor Muhiña, Vice-Mayor Blanca, Commissioner Blanes, Commissioner Rodriguez, Commissioner Suarez, Member Chavez, Member Milian, Member Paz and Alternate Member Evangelista voted yes. Member Orelle voted no. Motion passed.

- I. Review Section 3.05 - Vacancies; forfeiture of office; filling of vacancies.** Not discussed
- J. Review Section 3.06 - Procedure.** Not discussed.
- K. Review Section 3.07 - Initiatives and Referendums.** Not discussed.
- L. Review Section 3.08 - Mayor and Vice Mayor.** Not discussed.



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- M. Review Section 4.01 - City Manager.** Not discussed.
- N. Review Section 4.02 - Appointment; Removal; Compensation.** Not discussed.
- O. Review Section 4.03 - Acting City Manager.** Not discussed.
- P. Review Section 4.04 - Duties of City Manager.** Not discussed.
- Q. Review Section 4.05 - City Clerk.** Not discussed.
- R. Review Section 4.06 - City Attorney; City Engineer.** Not discussed

7. GOOD OF THE ORDER. None

8. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business before the Charter Review Board the meeting was declared adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Annery Gonzalez". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**ANNERY GONZALEZ, CMC
CITY CLERK**