

July 14, 2023

**To:** Honorable Ms. Katherine Jordan, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Council Representative and Chair of Government Operations

**From:** Mr. Antoine Banks (Secretary), Ms. Rachael Deane (Vice Chair), Dr. Thad Williamson (Chair), on behalf of the 2022 City Charter Review Commission

**Re:** July 6, 2023 – Minutes of the Public Hearing of the City Charter Review Commission (DRAFT)

Please review the attached meeting minutes that were taken at the fifteenth meeting of the 2022 City Charter Review Commission in Richmond, VA.



**CITY OF RICHMOND  
2022 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION  
July 2023**

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, July 13, 2023

**Meeting Location:** Richmond City Hall, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

**Presiding:** Thad Williamson, Chair

**Approval:** **DRAFT**

**Recorded by:** Antoine A. Banks, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

**Attest:** Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst

2 **OPENING:**

3  
4 The sixteenth meeting of the 2022 City Charter Review Commission was called to order at 6:04 p.m. on Wednesday,  
5 June 28, 2023 by Commission Chairman **Williamson** in the auditorium of the Richmond City Hall, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference  
6 Room.

7  
8 **COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

9 Thad Williamson, *Chair* 14 John P. Girardi  
10 Rachel Deane, *Vice Chair* 15 Travis Gunn  
11 Antoine Banks, *Secretary (Virtual)* 16 Steve Koski  
12 William "Bill" Echelberger, *Historian* 17 Daisy Weaver  
13 Kyle Elliott

18  
19 **STAFF AND COMMUNITY IN ATTENDANCE (REPRESENTATION):**

20  
21 Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst (*Council*)  
22 Sven Philipsen, Council Liaison, District 2, (*Virtual - Council*)  
23 Tori Cotman, Assistant City Attorney (*Administration*)  
24 *Online Attendance Count: 4*  
25 *Live Audience in Attendance: 3*

26  
27 **ADOPTION OF JULY 6, 2023 COMMISSION MINUTES:**

28  
29 The chair called upon members to review the minutes of the thirteenth Charter Review Commission meetings held on  
30 July 6, 2023.

31  
32 **MOTION 16.1:**

33 Commissioner **Banks** moved to adopt the July 6, 2023 CRC minutes.

34 **Notes on the Motion:** minutes were provided to all members prior to meeting.

35 **Second the Motion:** Adoption of minutes as drafted was properly seconded by Commissioner **Echelberger**.

36 **Resolution:** Motion carried. Minutes were approved unanimously, as drafted.  
37

38 **PUBLIC HEARING:**

39  
40 The chair provided an overview of the public hearing process and directed all audience members interested in offering  
41 testimony to clearly state their full name, council district, remain on topic, keep your discussion within the 3-minute  
42 time allotted and avoid ad hominem attacks.

43  
44 **PUBLIC COMMENTS 16.1:**

- 45 1. **Michael Way:** Support Council-Mayor form of government and inquired on the impact of decreasing  
46 the number of council districts.

47 \*

48 ***No other member from the live or virtual audience testified before the Commission.***

1  
2 **REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE PROPOSAL:**

3  
4 Chairman **Williamson** reviewed the draft Governance Committee proposal in detail and answered questions regarding  
5 it's overall goals. Several suggestions were made to use specific language and avoid "shall, aught, should, etc."  
6

7 **REVIEW OF THE DOCUMENT OPTIMIZATION PROPOSAL:**

8  
9 The chair provided details on the history of the charter with its' previous and current purpose being shared.  
10

11 **DISCUSSION OF OTHER REPORT SECTIONS:**

12  
13 Chairman **Williamson** shared details on the upcoming meetings agenda and topics.  
14

15 **UPCOMING COMMISSION MEETING DATES:**

16  
17 The chair announced the upcoming meetings of the commission to be held on **July 20**, and **July 27 (final meeting)**. **All**  
18 **meeting times to be announced**. Subcommittees will schedule meetings and provide notice to the public.  
19

20 **MOTION 16.2:**

21 Commissioner Echelberer moved to add July 20, 2023 from 5:30 – 8pm as an upcoming meeting dates.

22 **Notes on the Motion:**

23 **Second the Motion:** Adoption of minutes as drafted was properly seconded by Commissioner **Echelberger**.

24 **Resolution:** Motion carried. Minutes were approved unanimously, as drafted.  
25

26 **MOTION 16.3:**

27 Commissioner Echelberer moved to add July 27, 2023 from 4pm – 6pm as an upcoming meeting dates.

28 **Notes on the Motion:**

29 **Second the Motion:** Adoption of minutes as drafted was properly seconded by Commissioner **Echelberger**.

30 **Resolution:** Motion carried. Minutes were approved unanimously, as drafted.  
31

32 **MOTION 16.4:**

33 Commissioner Echelberer moved to add August 1, 2023 5:30 – 7:30pm as an upcoming meeting dates.

34 **Notes on the Motion:** this date is only precautionary and if needed.

35 **Second the Motion:** Adoption of minutes as drafted was properly seconded by Commissioner **Echelberger**.

36 **Resolution:** Motion carried. Minutes were approved unanimously, as drafted.  
37  
38

39 **ADJOURNMENT:**

40  
41 There being no further discussion or business that came before the commission at the time, A motion was made and  
42 seconded and unanimously adopted that the meeting be adjourned at 8:24 pm. Motion carried.