



King County

Charter Review Commission

2007-2008

Follow-up to Subcommittee Work Session

New County Office Building, 1st Floor

5:30pm-7:30pm

September 25, 2007

Co-Chairs: Gov. Mike Lowry and Lois North

Recognizing Forty Years of Good Governance

Final Subcommittee Assignments

Governmental Structure Issues

- Appointed/elected positions
- Partisan/non-partisan offices
- Initiative process
- Balance of power
- Election methods



Subcommittee members

Lead Staffer: Mark Yango

Primary:

- Trisha Bennett
- Dan Gandara
- Darcy Goodman
- Kirstin Haugen
- Tara Jo Heinecke
- Gregg Hirakawa
- John Jensen
- Mike Lowry
- Lois North
- Sarah Rindlaub

Chair: Tara Jo Heinecke

Vice Chair: Sarah Rindlaub

Regional Governance Issues

- Regional committees
- Departmental issues
- County budgeting
- Council procedures
- Library system



Subcommittee members

Lead Staffer: Becky Spithill

Primary:

- Juan Bocanegra
- Doreen Cato
- Bryan Glynn
- Kirstin Haugen
- John Jensen
- Gary Long
- Sharon Maeda
- Lois North
- Mike Wilkins
- James Williams

Chair: Bryan Glynn

Vice Chair: Doreen Cato

Rural/Local Issues

- Rural/unincorporated representation
- Local services in unincorporated areas
- Rural policy development & planning
- Unincorp. Area Councils



Subcommittee members

Lead Staffer: Corrie Watterson Bryant

Primary:

- Jim English
- John Groen
- Terry Lavender
- John Jensen
- Mike Lowry
- Gary Long
- Allan Munro
- Tara Jo Heinecke

Co-Chair: John Jensen

Co-Chair: Terry Lavender



New or Ambiguous Issues

- If it is not clear which subcommittee should handle an issue:
 - The Chairs, Vice Chairs, and staffers for both committees discuss it. All members may be asked to weigh in.
 - Criteria for issue assignment 1) Similarity of the issues in question to other issues that the subcommittee is working on; and 2) the relative workload of both committees.
- If a new issue is raised by a commissioner:
 - The commissioner should email the issue to the Chair, Vice Chair, and staffer for the appropriate committee. They will decide if and how to bring the issue before their subcommittee.

'Orphan' Issues

- Certain important issues are not being considered by any subcommittee. Issues include:
 - Annexation
 - Budgeting
 - Council procedures
 - Paid signature gathering
 - Sheriff (departmental issues)

- Options for orphan issues:
 - Adopted by a subcommittee
 - Considered by an Ad Hoc subcommittee
 - Not considered

Re-visiting the Role of Subcommittee Chairs

Subcommittee Chair Responsibilities:

- Create an agenda for each meeting, with the Vice Chair and lead staffer
- Facilitate subcommittee meetings
 - Maintaining order and giving everyone an opportunity to speak and voice their opinion
 - Remaining personally neutral as necessary to provide effective facilitation
- Direct research and writing efforts, with the lead staffer
- Ensure that all members are apprised of matters affecting your subcommittee's deliberations and recommendations
- If the chair would like to present his/her opinion on an issue, we recommend that they relinquish the chairship duties to the Vice Chair or Co-Chair

Suggested Approach -- How a Subcommittee Priority Issues becomes a New Charter Provision or a Charter Amendment

- Please refer to handout

Technical Cleanup

- Matters that are purely clean-up can be batched together in one proposed amendment
 - e.g., Some of the Sheriff issues deal with current charter language that is outdated
- To be considered as single ballot measure issues must have “rational unity”
- Issues that affect substantive change, beyond purely clean-up, may need separate ballot measure
- Executive Staff will keep an inventory of changes that will be examined after our priority issues have been vetted

Open Public Meeting Act

- Making email communication consistent with Open Public Meeting Act

Logging onto County Email

- Subcommittee and Commission business will often be conducted over email.
- You should only use your county email accounts.
- If you have not logged on yet, see Corrie after the meeting.

Logistics

- Parking vouchers
 - Collect money for dinner
 - Any others?
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- Next Full Commission meeting Tuesday, October 30, 5:30-7:30pm, ****Seattle Municipal Tower****