



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 6, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the 2024 New York City Charter Revision Commission was held at Staten Island Borough Hall in Staten Island, New York at 10:00 a.m. on June 6, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Dr. Hazel N. Dukes¹
- Ken Ngai
- Kyle Bragg
- Reverend Herbert Daughtry, Sr.²
- Ruben Díaz Jr.
- Lorraine Grillo
- Christopher B. Lynch³
- Stephanie McGraw⁴
- Max Rose
- Jackie Rowe-Adams
- Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz⁵

¹ Attended via teleconference

² Attended via teleconference

³ Attended via teleconference

⁴ Attended via teleconference

⁵ Attended via teleconference

The Chair acknowledged the presence of a quorum. Introductions of the Commissioners present were made. The Chair announced upcoming hearings will be held on Thursday, June 13th at New York Law School in Manhattan and Monday, June 24th at Curtis High School in Staten Island.

The Commission held a public hearing during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

Daniel L. Master, Jr., Legal Counsel to the Staten Island Borough President, proposed requiring local laws with fiscal impact statements to include a statement of compliance with the “fair share” provision of the Charter (see Charter Section 203). The additional statement of compliance would encourage consideration of a local law’s impact on the community and encourage a more equitable distribution of each borough’s share of the burdens and benefits of city facilities.

New York State Assemblyman Michael Tannousis of District 64 proposed requiring public hearings for public safety local laws to meaningfully engage agencies and communities on local laws’ proposed impact.⁶

Frank Morano argued for non-partisan elections to be presented to the electorate for referendum. He argued non-partisan elections lead to greater voter turnout and public cost savings. Commissioners Ruben Díaz Jr., Kyle Bragg, and Max Rose commented on the advantages and disadvantages of non-partisan elections. The Chair requested additional expert testimony at future hearings.

⁶ Testified remotely

Ann Marie Akash testified on the Human Resources Administration's (HRA) implementation of the CityFHEPS ("City Fighting Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Supplement") program.

Mona Davids testified (1) on behalf of the New York City School Safety Coalition that under the current voting system City Council members are voted in with less than 5% of registered Democrats and consequently do not adequately represent the community interests; (2) in opposition to the City Council's proposal to require advice and consent on various mayoral appointments on behalf of the New York City Parents Union; and (3) in opposition to the rollout of ranked choice voting in her personal capacity because it did not appear to increase voter turnout in her district.

New York City Council Member Joann Ariola of District 32 opposed City Council partisanship in public safety laws.⁷

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing. A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioners Bragg, Grillo, and Rowe-Adams and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivy Chiu
Special Counsel
New York City Charter Revision Commission

⁷ Testified remotely