

Mayor
Beryl E. Rothschild

Council
Adele H. Zucker, Vice Mayor
Peter R. Bernardo
Steven D. Bullock
Frank Consolo
Frankie B. Goldberg
Kevin Patrick Murphy
Steven Sims

Clerk of Council
Nancy E. English



Director of Finance
Arman R. Ochoa

Law Director
Kenneth J. Fisher

Prosecutor
William T. Doyle

Community Coordinator
Walter Stinson

Superintendent of Service
Christopher S. Vild

April 17, 2009

Fellow University Heights Residents:

As members of the Charter Review Commission (CRC), it is our intention to be as open and transparent as possible. In line with this purpose, we are pleased to provide the enclosed information. This letter includes the list of Charter Review Commission members and our contact information. Feel free to contact any of us with questions, comments or suggestions.

Following is information regarding a Public Hearing, where the Charter Review Commission will present its work. Also included are the dates of remaining CRC meetings and locations to look for information, such as the CRC web site which provides meeting minutes in full (also available from City Hall for a small fee), a copy of the current Charter, and documents written by Dr. Lawrence Keller, Associate Professor Emeritus, Public Administration Program, Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University.

We encourage you to read this information, learn as much as you can and make your comments known. You will be asked to vote on the recommendations of this Charter Review Commission, and this may be the most important legislation you will vote on for this city until another Charter Review Commission is formed.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 19

7:00 PM

WILEY MIDDLE SCHOOL (2181 Miramar Blvd.)

University Heights Charter Review Commission members information

Harvey S. Morrison, Chairman	(216) 291-2614	harvmorr@aol.com
Luke F. McConville, Vice Chairman	(216) 382-0919	luke@healthlaw.com
Jason P. Farrante, Secretary	(216) 371-9775	jferrante@sutter-law.com
Mark N. Wiseman	(216) 291-1513	markwise44@sbcglobal.net
Robert McClintock	(440) 248-3400 x1494	rmmcclintock@trane.com
Paul M. Miller	(216) 321-0775	paulmiller42@gmail.com
Simon A. Carroll	(216) 798-2619	simon.carroll@case.edu
F. Michael Boyle	(216) 789-9693	michael.f.boyle@chase.com
Joseph M. Shafran	(216) 921-5663	jshafran@paranmgt.com
Susan D. Pardee	(216) 932-7841	susan.pardee@gmail.com
Roderick H. Adams, Jr.	(216) 321-5849	rhair7@yahoo.com

Future meeting dates and location:

The University Heights Charter Review Commission meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at University Heights City Hall in the 3rd floor Council Chambers. Check with City Hall to confirm meeting dates/times.

University Heights City Hall

2300 Warrensville Center Road
(the corner of Warrensville and Silsby)

Tuesday, April 28, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, May 12, 7:30 pm

Tuesday, May 26, 7:30 pm

News media:

Information about the University Heights Charter Review Commission is reported in the University Heights newsletter (left when your rubbish is picked up), the Sun Press, and the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Internet link:

University Heights Charter Review Commission page: <http://www.universityheights.com/crc.html>

This site provides more information about the work that has been done and includes the text of the City Charter, Draft Charter, comments from experts and other educational material.

Definitions of forms of government

The University Heights Charter Review Commission recently voted to include a City Administrator in the proposed University Heights Charter while maintaining an elected Mayor, which is a hybrid form of government. Below are definitions of some of the types of government considered by the Commission.¹

Mayor-Council form of government

In the mayor-council form [of government], which is the oldest...there is (not surprisingly) a mayor and a council consisting of a number of members...The structure is patterned on that of the state and federal governments...[T]he mayor is elected at large...[and] is head of the executive branch, presiding over council meetings, appointing chiefs of departments, perhaps with the council's approval, and is often the budgetary officer of the city. He can veto ordinances passed by the legislative branch, the council.

City Manager form of government

In the council-manager form, policymaking is vested in elected representatives and management in an appointed professional manager....The mayor, or chairman, of the council and council members are the leaders and policy makers elected to represent the community and to concentrate on policy issues that are responsive to citizens' needs and wishes. A manager is appointed by the governing body to carry out policy and ensure that the entire community is properly served. If the manager in question does not respond to the governing body's wishes, it has the authority to dismiss that manager at any time.

Hybrid: Chief administrative officer cities

A growing number of mayor-council cities have begun adding a new professional position, that of city administrator or chief administrative officer (CAO) in the mayor's office. CAOs serve under the mayor and assist with the mayor's administrative and policy-related responsibilities. Generally, this position may be responsible for budget preparation, personnel administration, and the daily supervision of departments. Theoretically, the role of a CAO frees the mayor from the minutiae of administrative details to allow the mayor to concentrate on policy development and political leadership roles.

¹ The above definitions were obtained from the United States Conference of Mayors internet site:

http://www.citymayors.com/usa/usa_loggov.html and

http://www.citymayors.com/government/council_managers.html