



City of Cleveland Heights Charter Review Commission

Submissions to the Commission

Committee of the Whole
12 February 2018

The following messages and other materials have been submitted to the Facilitator since the last sharing of Submissions.

1. Melissa Yasinow - Links to Financial Reports

<https://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/campaign-finance-reports.aspx>

In follow up to some inquiries of various Commission members, it is possible to review Councilmembers' donors by reviewing our finance reports, which are filed with the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections. The audited reports can be found online ([here](#)) by simply inputting the name of Councilmembers. The unaudited reports (basically, reports that are still public but haven't yet been fully vetted by the Board of Elections and put online) can be requested via email. The person to contact at the Board of Elections is Ms. Rosemarie Amato. You may email Ms. Amato at RAmato@cuyahogacounty.us or call at 216-443-3226. She usually has a quick turnaround time. The only reports that are likely still unaudited are the 2017 Pre Gen and Post Gen reports.

In a follow-up message, Councilmember/Vice Mayor Yasinow shared the following link for information on financial disclosure deadlines.

[https://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf_boe/en-US/2018/CPS/2018 Campaign Finance Deadlines.pdf](https://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf_boe/en-US/2018/CPS/2018_Campaign_Finance_Deadlines.pdf)

2. Melissa Yasinow – Suggestion if Mayor separately elected

As to the choice of Council President / Mayor, I do think that there are benefits to the Council choosing its own leadership. However, if there were to be a change, I would recommend that a person be able to simultaneously run for Council and Council President / Mayor. I don't believe that a valued member of Council should potentially lose their seat while seeking a leadership role. Likewise, I do see benefit to a Council President / Mayor having some previous experience on Council.

3. Dave Porter, attorney, who has attended charter review meetings, submitted this message to the Chair

Jack, a couple of background statistics that might interest the Commission (maybe Larry already gave this in materials you have).

A. How many Ohio cities are organized like Cleveland Heights?

I found this document over at the Ohio Municipal League. <http://www.omloho.org/DocumentCenter/View/116>

According to their list, Ohio's charter cities and villages are divided up as follows:

Mayor plus Council = 154 [this includes University Heights, East Cleveland and South Euclid]

Council City plus Manager = 71 [this includes Cleveland Heights]

Mayor + Council + Manager = 21 [this includes Shaker Heights]

Commissioners + Manager = 8 [none local]

Thinking it might make sense to compare cities of comparable size to Cleveland Heights, here is an analysis for the 17 cities between 35,000 and 55,000 residents as of the 2010 census:

Mayor plus Council = 9

Council City plus Manager = 6

Mayor + Council + Manager = 1

Commissioners + Manager = 1

B. What is the trend in City organization?

According to the National League of Cities: the Council/City Manager organizational format "is the most common form of government. According to surveys by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), this form of government has grown from 48% usage in 1996 to 55% usage in 2006. It is most popular in cities with populations over 10,000, mainly in the Southeast and Pacific coast areas. Some examples are Phoenix, Arizona; Topeka, Kansas; San Antonio, Texas, and Rockville, Maryland."

<http://www.nlc.org/resource/cities-101-forms-of-local-government>