

# 2015 Charter Review Task Force



## Summary Minutes

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Thursday, May 28, 2015

5:00PM

Council Committee Room  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 9081  
Albuquerque/Bernalillo  
County Government Center

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### **Members Present**

Laura Mason  
Bruce Thompson  
Robert Stetson  
Doug Antoon  
Steven Allen  
David Buchholtz  
Paul Kienzle  
Myra Segal  
Steve Gallegos  
David A. Garcia

### **Council/ Administration Staff Present**

Eric Locher, City Attorney's Office  
Hessel Yntema IV, City Attorney's Office  
Chris Melendrez, Council Staff  
Lindsay Burkhard, Council Staff

The meeting was called to order at 5:13PM.

### **1. Roll Call**

Mr. White, Task Force Chair names Mr. Steve Gallegos to serve as Chair for the purpose of this meeting. Mr. Gallegos calls roll.

- Paul Kienzle for Justine Fox-Young and Nina Martinez

### **2. Public Comment**

Tad Niemyjski addressed the Task Force.

### **3. Staff Presentations**

Lindsay Burkhard presented research relating to the number of Council members vs. population in similarly populated cities around the county. The Task Force discusses the provision of the Charter that requires nine and only nine Council Districts so as to potentially allow more than nine districts. The Task Force engages in a dialogue about number of staffers in the Council office, and other resources allocated to each district.

**4. Presentation from the City Attorney's Office**

Mr. Yntema presents to the Task Force to answer the question: does the Public Finance program violate the anti-donation clause? City Legal has certain exceptions for scholarships. They also discuss recent case law and the enforcement of these provisions. The City Attorney's opinion is that as reflected in recent trends, this would not be found unconstitutional.

**5. Other Business**

Mr. Stetson asks the City legal to consider alternative forms of voting procedures such as electronic voting. Mr. Locher discusses the concerns with moving to that type of a system, and notes that it would have to be approved by the State Legislature.

The Task Force briefly discusses what they would like to have staff provide at the next meeting.

**6. There being no other business the Council moves to adjourn at 6:10PM.**

