



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 17-1755A, **Version:** 1

Subject:

Authority to advertise a public hearing to be held on November 28, 2017 regarding a proposed ordinance amending Chapter 70, Section 403 of the Pinellas County Code relating to Human Relations to remove the County Administrator, County Attorney, and Director of Human Rights as “ex-Officio” members of the County Council for Persons with Disabilities.

Recommended Action:

Authorize a public hearing to be held on November 28, 2017, regarding a proposed ordinance amending Chapter 70, Section 403 of the Pinellas County Code relating to Human Relations to remove the County Administrator, County Attorney, and Director of Human Rights as “ex-Officio” members of the County Council for Persons with Disabilities (Council).

Strategic Plan:

Deliver First Class Service to the Public and Our Customers
5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

Summary:

The Board of County Commissioners (Board) amended Chapter 70 of the Pinellas County Code on March 7, 2017, to create the Council to help identify issues of accessibility to county facilities, programs, and services, as well as potential issues of discrimination impacting person with disabilities. Following the format of other ordinances which have created similar boards, the ordinance names the County Administrator, the County Attorney, and the Director of Human Rights as “ex-Officio” members. In doing so, it makes it impossible for these officials to discuss business which might arise before the Council without violating “government in the sunshine” principles. Therefore, staff recommends amending this section to remove these officials as “ex-Officio” members of the Council so that they may discuss board business between themselves, and with individual board members, as may be necessary.

If advertising is approved, the public hearing for this proposed ordinance will be Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

Background Information:

The Board approved amending Chapter 70 of the Code relating to Human Relations to create an advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities on March 7, 2017.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Staff Member Responsible:

Paul Valenti, Director, Office of Human Rights

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

Ordinance

Ordinance (strikethrough)