

From: "Mary Grusin" <m3grusin@att.net>
Date: May 15, 2016 at 5:50:06 PM EDT
To: "Mary Grusin" <marygrusin@gmail.com>
Cc: "Richard Grusin" <goodvis1@bellsouth.net>, "Roger Kostmayer" <rogerkostmayer@gmail.com>, "Evans Corns" <corns7659@gmail.com>
Subject: At-Large Election of District City Commissioners
Reply-To: "Mary Grusin" <m3grusin@att.net>

At this weeks City Commission on Tuesday night , the City Commission will consider a proposal sponsored by Commissioner Kaufman **to amend the Key West City Charter to provide for At-Large Election of District City Commissioners setting the Primary Election of August 30, 2016, as the date of the Referendum.** If the referendum is put to a vote in August and passed by the voters, the manner in which City Commission members in District's I through VI would be changed from the current requirement that only those electors in each single voting district may vote for a district commissioner to district commission members being elected at large by a vote of all eligible electors in the City of Key West.

The city commission would continue to consist of seven (7) commissioners, six of whom shall be elected by the people at large but reside in districts numbered I, II, III, IV, V, and VI. The mayor shall be elected by the people at large for a term of two (2) years. Commissioners from districts numbered I, II, III, IV, V and VI shall be elected for a term of four (4) years. A similar referendum was voted on in 1996. **76.7% of the voters approved.** However, the referendum was non-binding and was never implemented. The referendum now proposed would be **binding.**

Richard and I feel that the voters should have an opportunity to update their opinion regarding this topic knowing that the outcome will not be ignored. The significant challenges facing Key West are city-wide. It seems to us that an at-large election would create new opportunities for both candidates and voters; re-energize the electoral process and ultimately move a commission beyond tedious rehashing toward visionary and determined problem solving of the major issues that face us..

Please consider joining us at the commission meeting on Tuesday night at the Old City hall, listen to the arguments, participate if you wish and support the action you favor. This is a significant opportunity that we must not let pass us by.

Sincerely,

Mary and Richard Grusin