

Baltimore City Ethics Board
626 City Hall
Baltimore MD 21202
March 13, 2014

Minutes of the Public Session

The Ethics Board met on March 13, 2012 in the Conference Room of the Office of Department of Legislative Reference, 626 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland.

- A. Call to Order: Chairwoman Linda Pierson called to order the meeting of the Baltimore City Ethics Board at 9:40 a.m. on March 13, 2012 with a quorum present. Present were Board members Linda Pierson, Guy Flynn and Dawna Cobb. Also present was Director Avery Aisenstark and Deputy Director Thaddeus Watulak. Member designee Alicia Wilson was also in attendance.
- B. Approval of the minutes: February 2012 minutes were approved as amended by a vote of 3-0.
- C. Chair's report: Ms. Pierson reported she, Ms. Wilson and Ms. Burdick attended the ethics training that was provided to City Council members and several staff members. This training occurred on February 27, 2012.
- D. Director's Report:
 1. Ms. Pratt has resigned as Honorary Chair of The National Association of Securities Professionals.
 2. A Mayor's Fellow application has been submitted.
 3. Confirmation-Ms. Alicia Wilson has been confirmed as a new member of the Board. Ms. Cobb has been before the Council committee and should be confirmed on March 19. Ms. Wilson has not been sworn in.
 4. Request for doing business with the City list. Employee with loans with Wells Fargo and Sally Mae wanted to know if either has done business with the City. Avery met with Mr. Black, the interim Director of Finance, and told him that having a current list of entities doing business must be a priority. He said he would get on it. We will see. Avery is not optimistic. Avery wants to meet with Mr. Black to see what can be done. Avery thinks it can be put on line so that it is searchable. We should also put the lobbyist list on line. All of this info should be in one place where everyone can look. Another possible list would be legislative activities, i.e., companies seeking zoning changes so it can build.

- E. Investigation report on complaint against L.G.. The matter was deferred until the next meeting.
- F. Solicitation requests-
 - 1. Baltimore Greek Week-This was approved last month pending approval by the BOE, which the Board received.
- G. Solicitations from BMore Streets for People -These two requests came in after the agenda was created. The Board by a vote of 3-0 authorized the approval of this request upon receipt of the Board of Estimates endorsement. The approval will specify an end date of 3/13/13.
- H. Solicitation from Muscular Dystrophy Association Lock-Up 2012 also came in after the agenda was created. It was submitted by Damion Cooper. The Board approved the Lock Up request by a vote of 3-0 provided that Mr. Cooper not use City resources to solicit donations.
- I. Discussion of Official's Request to Purchase City Property- Mr. Aisenstark will gather additional information regarding this request; in addition he will seek the Law Department's opinion on whether Article 13, 2-14 apply to the facts of this particular situation. This matter was tabled pending receipt of this information.
- J. Proposed gift regulations- The matter was deferred until the next meeting.
- K. Discussion of draft bills to broaden definition of conflicted parties beyond parties with a relationship with an official's agency. The Inspector General advised Mr. Aisenstark that he needed comments on the bill from the Labor Commissioner and City unions. A motion to adopt the February 16 bill entitled Gifts to Officials was approved by a vote of 3-0.
- L. The Board's next meeting will be April 20 , 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.