

Baltimore City Ethics Board
626 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Minutes of the Public Session

The Ethics Board met on December 14, 2010 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 10:07 a.m. on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 with a quorum present. Present were Board members Linda Pierson, Jennifer Burdick, Dawna Cobb Guy Flynn and Peggy Walls. Also present were Director Avery Aisenstark and Deputy Director Thaddeus Watulak.
- B. Minutes for October 12 and November 8 meetings of the Board were reviewed. Minutes for October 12 were approved as amended; the November 8 minutes were also approved, both by unanimous consent.
- C. Chair's Report. There is no report this month; however, the Chair has reviewed the City's Budget and notes there is no line item in the budget for the Ethics Board. The Board recommends that staff track and document the time it spends providing ethics training to City employees and providing support to the Board. It was further noted that a budget for the Board should be discussed with the Mayor.
- D. Subsidized trips: Mr. Flynn recused himself from this discussion and left the room. At 10:30 a.m. a motion to go into closed session was approved by unanimous consent to discuss an investigation with the Inspector General, David McClintock. (Md. St. Gov't Code Ann. §10-508(12)). The Board returned to open session at 11:05 a.m. without taking any action. Mr. Flynn returned to the open meeting.
- E. Director's Report: An updated report--Management, Oversight and Monitoring Modality for Ethics Board inquiries (MOMME)-- was previously provided to Board members via e-mail on December 2, 2010.
- F. Draft Report on pending Bill 10-615: The Board reviewed a draft report and suggested changes. The Director will finalize and circulate the Board's report on this bill.
- G. Report and dismissal of HV matter: There was no discussion of this matter; however, a draft letter dismissing this matter was unanimously approved by the Board. Not participating in this matter was Mr. Flynn, who recused himself from this matter. He did not review the draft or participate in approving it.
- H. Pending applications for solicitation: City Solicitor George Nilson joined the meeting and referred to his November 8, 2010 request for an exemption allowing Chief Service Officer, Vu Dang, to solicit in-kind services from individuals or corporations doing business with the City for purposes of a new volunteer development program. The Board, by unanimous consent, approved the exemption through September 2012. This approval is conditioned on Mr. Dang or his delegate filing acceptable reports as required under the Board's regulation 6.26.

1. Pending opinion request by B.C. regarding development: This matter is now moot and the Director will advise the requestor that the Board considers this request withdrawn.
1. Confirming next meeting date: Thursday, January 13, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 11:54 pm

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Prepared by Dawna M. Cobb