



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes ETHICS BOARD

DWIGHT ELLIS III, CHAIR
Annie Wacker, Vice Chair
Devon Turner, Patricia Hintz, Martha Toran, Joanne Barndt,
and Robert Shelledy

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Wednesday, March 17, 2010

9:00 AM

Room 301-B, City Hall

Meeting convened: 9:06 A.M.

Present: 6 - Turner, Ellis, Hintz, Wacker, Barndt, Shelledy

Excused: 1 - Toran

1. Roll call and approval of the minutes from the February 17, 2010 meeting.

Ms. Wacker moved, seconded by Mr. Shelledy, for approval of the minutes. There were no objections.

2. The Board may convene into closed session to hear disciplinary matters and related information pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(b) and/or (f), Wis. Stats., and to consider and render confidential advice pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(h), Wis. Stats.

There were no matters for closed session.

3. The Board may then convene into open session as authorized by s. 19.85(2), Wis. Stats.

4. Report from research assistant relative to office activities of the previous month.

Ms. Devereaux has spoken to three individuals about closed sessions, but there have been no formal requests. Ms. Devereaux notes that there are still some statements of economic interests (approximately 25) still outstanding. She also responded to one open records request.

5. Update on revisions to the proposed Ethics Board Rules and Procedures.

Ms. Wacker, Ms. Barndt and Mr. Shelledy met on March 10th to discuss the Rules and Procedures. Ms. Wacker noted that the Board is opposed to the City Clerk's recommendation to not include the Code as part of its Rules and also feels the office of the City Clerk is attempting to overstep its authority as it relates to this Board. The Subcommittee changed the font on the Rules and Procedures and added text to note that if the Rules and Ordinance are in conflict, that the Ordinance will rule. The Board did add text related to timely requests for confidential opinions to require a minimum of five business days. Prior to finalization, two people will read both the Code and the Rules to ensure that they're in compliance.

Ms. Devereaux also removed the word "confidential" from the Rules as it relates to advisory opinions so it conforms to the Code. Atty. Ehrlich said that the Board should err on the side of caution and treat all requests for advisory opinions as confidential.

Mr. Shelledy moved, seconded by Ms. Wacker, to have the Code amended to note that all requests for advisory opinions are confidential. Ms. Devereaux will contact the Legislative Reference Bureau drafter to have this change made.

Ms. Devereaux will provide to the Council file a redlined version that shows the changes from the current version of the Rules.

Ms. Wacker moved, seconded by Mr. Shelledy, for approval of the Rules, with the understanding that the Code references will be double-checked prior to introduction. There were no objections.

6. Update on returns of the 2009 Statement of Economic Interest forms.

Ms. Devereaux notified Mayor Barrett and Pres. Hines relating to their appointees who did not file statements. She also notified the City Clerk's Office of those individuals who filed late and owe \$25 (there are four). There are two employees who have not filed and the remaining approximately 25 individuals are board members. Ms. Devereaux did reminder e-mails and mailings in an attempt to reach 100% compliance.

7. Review newly filed Statement of Economic Interests forms for clarity and completeness.

The Board reviewed and approved the forms of Audra Brennan, Carlos Amador, Michael Sanfelippo and Williams Morales.

8. Set next meeting date(s).

April 21st

*Meeting adjourned: 9:41 A.M.
Linda M. Elmer
Staff Assistant*