

Baltimore City Ethics Board
635 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202
February 10, 2021

Minutes of the Meeting

The Ethics Board met on February 10, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. by video conference call.

Call to Order: Chairman Stephan Fogleman called the Ethics Board meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. with a quorum present.

Statement Concerning Potential Administrative Session: Chair Fogleman read the following statement:

The Board may need to close some or all of this meeting to preserve the confidentiality mandated by the Ethics Code or as otherwise authorized by the State Open Meetings Act. Likewise, upon adjournment of the Open Session, the Board may reconvene for an Administrative Session to discuss non-public, administrative functions of the Board.

Statement Concerning January's Administrative Session: Director Hochstetler read the following statement:

Per the Open Meetings Act, the Board discloses that it adjourned its virtual open meeting on January 12, 2021 to enter into an administrative session at approximately 3:30 pm. All Board members were present. Members discussed complaints.

Discussion with President HyeSook Chung of the Baltimore Civic Fund: President Hyesook Chung discussed the relationship between the Baltimore Civic Fund (BCF) and Baltimore City government. The Board and President Chung discussed the need for increased collaboration between the Ethics Board and BCF when it comes to

governmental/charitable fundraising campaigns that require Ethics Board approval.

Director's Update: Director Hochstetler and Executive Assistant Ford updated the Board on the staff's recent work:

- 19 elected officials filed their 2021 financial disclosure statements.
- Board staff requested list of financial disclosure filers from 40+ organizations.
- 142 lobbying activity reports (of 150 lobbyist registrations) were filed by the January 31st deadline.
- 4 gift solicitation campaigns filed reports.
- 3 gift solicitation campaigns have outstanding reports.
- 2 Ethics Training sessions were held in January.
- 3 Ethics Training sessions have been scheduled for the coming months.
- The Ethics Notice and accompanying memo were distributed to 20 agencies.
- 93 Ethics help desk requests were received and resolved by the Ethics Board Staff in January.
 - 29 help desk requests were from lobbyists.
 - 9 help desk requests were concerning gift solicitations.
 - 21 help desk requests were concerning financial disclosure statements.
 - 23 help desk requests were requests for ethics guidance.
 - 8 help desk requests were concerning the Ethics Training.
 - 3 help desk requests were out of the Board's jurisdiction.
- 23 help desk requests received so far in February.

Comprehensive Plastic Bag Pan Phase 2 Charitable/Governmental Solicitation Application: The Board unanimously approved the gift solicitation application.

Move to Administrative Session: Board members elected to move to

an Administrative Session.

The public meeting adjourned at 3:39 pm.