

Baltimore City Ethics Board
626 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202
January 15, 2020

Minutes of the Public Session

The Ethics Board met on January 15, 2020 at 2:30 pm in the Conference Room of the Department of Legislative Reference, 626 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland.

Call to Order – Chairperson Lu Pierson called to order the meeting of the Baltimore City Ethics Board at 2:32 p.m. with a quorum present. Present were Board members Lu Pierson, Stephan Fogleman, Donna Davis, and Teresa Epps Cummings. Avery Aisenstark, Ethics Director, and Anthony DeFranco, Deputy Ethics Director, were also present.

1. **Approval of the minutes:** Approval of the minutes of the December 2019 meeting was tabled.

2. **Chair's Report:** none

3. **Director's Status Updates** provided by Anthony DeFranco:

a. Staff presented a draft regulation regarding solicitation activity reports. The regulation would require that reports be signed by the fiscal agent to attest that the report was compiled in accordance with generally accepted principles in the practice of accounting. The Board deferred voting on the regulation until the regulation was offered up for comment. Staff would send to agencies that frequently submit solicitation applications.

b. Council Bill 20-483, previously introduced as CB12-110, which was introduced on behalf of the Ethics Board at that time. The bill clarifies that elected official and staff may not accept certain gifts from those doing business with the *entire City* rather than just the *agency*. It codifies the advice that Board staff has been giving to these affected individuals. Board voted 3-0 to support.

c. Council Bill19-0378: regarding moving administration of ethics board to inspector general's office. Scheduled for hearing on January 30, 2020, 12pm. Board strongly supports because this board is the only local ethics board with no budget.

4. **Solicitations:**

Councilman Cohen's-Trauma Responsiveness: Healing City Baltimore SF moved to approve the Healing City Baltimore solicitation. Motion was 2nd and approved unanimously.

Next meeting/standing meeting date: second Wednesday of each month would be 02/12, 03/11, 04/08/2020 @ 2:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 3:12pm.