

Baltimore City Ethics Board
626 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202
November 5, 2018

Minutes of the Public Session- The Ethics Board met on November 5, 2018 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 2:39 p.m. with a quorum present. Present were Board Members Lu Pierson, Teresa Cummings, Stephan Fogleman, Guy Flynn and Sabrina Turner (arrived approximately 3pm). Also present was Avery Aisenstark, Ethics Director, and Anthony DeFranco, Deputy Ethics Director.

Approval of the Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the August 1, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved (after edits by Mr. DeFranco) with one edit; the word “deleted” was removed. The September 5, 2018 (after edits by Mr. DeFranco) and October 3, 2018 minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair’s Report: No report.

Director’s Report: The Director discussed the letter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board regarding the “social club task force.” It was decided that Mr. Aisenstark will draft a response instructing the staff on their responsibilities regarding recusal if there is a financial interest involved.

Solicitations: None.

Project Pneuma issue is now moot as the founder is no longer a city employee.

Conflicts Affidavit Potential Amendment- Based upon staff’s suggestion, a motion was made to amend the Conflicts Affidavit to no longer require notarization. The Board discussed that the staff’s suggestion to remove the notarization requirement would improve response rates for the Affidavit and had little downside. The motion passed unanimously.

Progress of BCIT Online Lobbying Reporting- The implementation of the new process is moving forward with completion scheduled for this spring. Registration will be required within 5 days and reporting will be fixed for July 31 and January 31.

Required Conformity with State Ethics Law- Staff will draft the proposed amendments with drafts to be provided to the Board for its review.

Upcoming Meeting- The next board meeting will be December 5, 2018 at 2:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.