

Baltimore City Ethics Board
635 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202
May 12, 2021

Minutes of the Meeting

The Ethics Board met on May 12, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. by conference call.

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

Statement Concerning March's Administrative Session and 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.

Per the Open Meetings Act, the Board discloses that it adjourned its virtual open meeting on April 14, 2021 to enter into an administrative session at approximately 3:14 pm. All Board members except member Hengerer were present. Members discussed administrative matters including late fees, advisory opinions, and a secondary employment request.

BDC/Emerging Technology Centers Charitable/Governmental Solicitation

Application: The Board approved the gift solicitation application with a vote of 4-0.

Approval of Written Minutes for April 14, 2021 Public Meeting: The Board approved the April 14, 2021 minutes with a vote of 4-0.

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

- Ethics Training
 - 1 Ethics Training session was held in April with 109 attendees.
 - 1 Ethics Training sessions has been scheduled for the coming months:
 - 6/29/2021 (20 people registered so far)
- Help Desk
 - 600 help desk requests were received and resolved by the Ethics Board Staff in April.
 - 9 help desk requests were from lobbyists.
 - 4 help desk requests were concerning gift solicitations.
 - 548 help desk requests were concerning financial disclosure statements.
 - 24 help desk requests were ethics inquiries.

- 12 help desk requests were concerning the Ethics Training.
 - 3 help desk requests were administrative (question about deadlines, forms, etc).
 - 140 help desk requests received so far in May.
- Additional Ethics Requirements Forms (Since January)
 - Since the last Ethics Board meeting, Board staff have received:
 - 49 Conflicts Affidavits
 - 54 Notices of Ethics Requirements
- Financial Disclosure Statements:
 - 2,902 required filers.
 - 2,309 filers submitted financial disclosure statements by the deadline of April 30.
 - 2,676 filers have submitted financial disclosure statements.
 - 186 individuals who submitted statements were not required to file.
 - 412 outstanding filers.
 - 22 required filers are no longer with the City and were subtracted from the total of outstanding filers.
- Gift Solicitation Reports
 - 2 gift solicitation applications submitted to the Ethics Board.
 - 1 gift solicitation campaign filed final report.
 - 2 gift solicitation campaigns filed interim reports.

Councilmember Zeke Cohen – LEE Public Policy Fellowship 2021 – 2022

Charitable/Governmental Solicitation Application: The Board approved the gift solicitation application with a vote of 4-0.

Other Solicitation Requests – BCRP Land Donation for Hilton Recreation Center:

The Board discussed the solicitation request, which involves land that is currently owned by Potts and Callahan. Board member Hengerer inquired about how the Board will ensure that Potts and Callahan does not receive favorable treatment if it donates this land. The Board members agreed with the stipulations in the draft approval. With a vote of 4-0, the Board approved the solicitation request with the following conditions:

- The land solicitation and donation is for the exclusive benefit of a governmental program—here, the expansion of BCRP’s Hilton Recreation Center;
- The land solicitation and donation will comply with all other relevant City policies and approval requirements—here, BCRP will also be working with the Real Estate Department and the Law Department;
- As part of any land solicitation and donation efforts, the potential donor, P&C, and any other potential donors, will be expressly informed in writing that any donation will not result in special access or favored treatment from any City agency or official; and
- BCRP will provide a follow up report to the Ethics Board within 6 months of the Ethics Board’s approval that details the manner of any solicitation efforts, the

result of any solicitation efforts, and any progress on the Hilton Recreation Center expansion.

Bill Report – City Council Bill 21-00067 (“Baltimore City Residency Requirements – Prohibition Against Purposeful Evasion”): The Board reviewed Director Hochstetler’s Bill Report and agreed the matter does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Ethics Board.

Move to Administrative Session: Board members elected to move to an Administrative Session.

The public meeting adjourned at 3:14 pm.