

Baltimore City Ethics Board
635 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202
June 9, 2021

Minutes of the Meeting

The Ethics Board met on June 9, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. by conference call.

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

Statement Concerning May's Administrative Session and Potential Confidential Session: Chair Fogleman read the following statement:

Per the Open Meetings Act, the Board discloses that it adjourned its virtual open meeting on May 12, 2021 to enter into an administrative session at approximately 3:14 pm. All Board members were present. Members discussed administrative matters including complaints, late fees, and a secondary employment request.

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.

Approval of Written Minutes for May 12, 2021 Public Meeting: The Board approved the May 12, 2021 minutes with a vote of 4-0.

Director's Update: Director Hochstetler updated the Board on the staff's recent work:

- **OIG Budget Hearing**
 - Board staff provided updated metrics to the OIG for its budget hearing.
- **Ethics Training**
 - 1 Ethics Training sessions is scheduled for the coming months:
 - 6/29/2021 (26 people registered so far)
- **Help Desk**
 - 274 help desk requests were received and resolved by the Ethics Board Staff in May.
 - 8 help desk requests were from lobbyists.
 - 2 help desk requests were concerning gift solicitations.
 - 222 help desk requests were concerning financial disclosure statements.
 - 37 help desk requests were ethics inquiries.
 - 2 help desk requests were concerning the Ethics Training.

- 0 help desk requests were administrative (question about deadlines, forms, etc).
 - 3 help desk requests were not within the Board’s jurisdiction and were referred elsewhere.
 - 13 help desk requests received so far in June.
- Additional Ethics Requirements (Since January)
 - Since the last Ethics Board meeting, Board staff have received:
 - 1 Conflicts Affidavits
 - 3 Notices of Ethics Requirements
- Financial Disclosure Statements:
 - 2,877 required filers.
 - 2,878 filers have submitted financial disclosure statements.
 - 200 individuals who submitted statements were not required to file.
 - 101 outstanding filers.
 - 98 required filers are no longer with the City and were subtracted from the total of outstanding filers.
 - The Ethics Board will be reviewing the statements with the assistance of an intern.
- Gift Solicitation Reports
 - 0 gift solicitation applications submitted to the Ethics Board.
 - 0 gift solicitation campaign filed final report.
 - 0 gift solicitation campaigns filed interim reports.

Board Discussion: Vice chair Davis asked for an update on Bill 21-0067, on which the Ethics Board had provided an unfavorable report. Director Hochstetler explained that the hearing had been postponed with no further action. Vice chair Davis also inquired about the Board of Estimate’s review of the City’s travel policies. The Director stated that he had provided ethics recommendations to the City Solicitor and City Administrator for the revision of the City’s travel policies.

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

The public meeting adjourned at 2:51 pm.