

Baltimore City Ethics Board  
626 City Hall  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
October 5, 2016

**Minutes of the Public Session**

The Ethics Board met on October 5, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. 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 3:10 p.m. with a quorum present. Present were Board members Lu Pierson, Dawna Cobb and Stephen Fogelman and Guy Flynn, who attended by telephone. Also present was Avery Aisenstark, Director of the Ethics Board, Thaddeus Watulak, Deputy Director of the Ethics Board. Also present were Lester Davis and Emily Witty, members of the Council President's staff.

**A. Approval of Minutes from September**-The Board approved the September 2016 minutes with minor changes by a vote of 4-0.

**B. Chair's Report**-There is no report.

**C. Director's Status Updates**

1. Mr. Aisenstark reported that the new regulations have been incorporated to the on-line article.
2. Pending Legislation- Bill 15-0568-Mr. Watulak said Kara Kunst of the Council President's Office told him that the bill was to be voted out of committee on 10.11.16.
3. **Journey Home Transition**-This item is for the Board's information only. The Board has in the past determined this was a City entity. New federal requirements require organizations like

Journey home to be more independent. Thus, Journey Home will be changing its charter and by laws so as to no longer subject to the City Ethics Code.

#### **D. Solicitation Requests**

**1. President's Office-Council Transition-**Mr. Davis clarified that the amount sought to be raised is \$10,000. Mr. Fogelman expressed his concerns about these types of events because they give donors who do business with the City the opportunity to make gifts they might not otherwise be able to make. Mr. Davis responded by saying that some colleges have come forward to express interest in providing the venue for training. With eight new council members, the council president anticipates there will be expenses associated with training them and celebrating those who are leaving. The board approved the request by a vote of 3-0.<sup>1</sup>

**2. Health Department -Healthy Baltimore 2020 -**The board approved the request by a vote of 3-0.<sup>2</sup>

**3. Veterans Commission-**This request, which was approved over e-mail, was affirmed by a vote of 3-0.<sup>3</sup>

**E.** The Board moved into closed session to discuss a complaint by a vote of 3-0.

**F.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

**G.** The next meeting will be November 2 at 3 pm.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Flynn was not on the phone at the time this vote was taken.

<sup>2</sup> Id.

<sup>3</sup> Id.