

Baltimore City Ethics Board
626 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202
August 21, 2015

Minutes of the Public Session

The Ethics Board met on August 21, 2015 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 9:30 a.m. with a quorum present. Present were Board members Lu Pierson, Guy Flynn, Dawna Cobb and Jennifer Burdick. Also present was Avery Aisenstark, Director of the Ethics Board and Thaddeus Watulak, Deputy Director of the Ethics Board.

A. The Board voted 4-0 to go into closed session to discuss a pending investigation with counsel, Andrew Graham. The Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.

B. Approval of Minutes from July-The Board approved the July minutes with minor changes by a vote of 4-0.

C. Chair's Report: There is no report.

D. Director's Status Updates

1. New Board Member-the mayor has nominated Julian Todd Andrews Lee to be on the Ethics Board. The Board considers Ms. Wilson's letter dated August 10, 2015 to be her resignation from the Ethics Board.
2. Update to "General" Financial Disclosure Form-This has been completed and are now on the website.
3. Discussion of Special "Board and Commission Members" Financial Disclosure form. -This form is not submitted electronically

and thus filers must pay \$10. Alternatively, they can use the on-line general form. The Board discussed the differences in the two forms. The Board voted 4-0 to amend the general form to include a “before and after” with ranges on Schedule 5, section 5 of the Boards and Commissions form. After that the Boards and Commissions form will no longer be used and everyone will fill out the general form.

E. Interpretive request- An employee of the Department of Finance, Tim Coyne, inquired whether he would be allowed to serve on an advisory board for a company, Empower, that has a contract with Finance that he’s involved in overseeing, without having to recuse himself from his work on that contract. A motion not to approve Mr. Coyne’s request was approved by a vote of 3-1. Those supporting the motion believed that serving on the board would make him an agent of the board.

F. Draft of Annual Report-The draft annual report was reviewed and corrected as necessary.

G. The next Board meeting will be September 11 at 9:30 a.m.

H. A motion to adjourn was made and approved at 11:30 a.m.