

Baltimore City Ethics Board
635 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202
May 11, 2022

Minutes of the Meeting

The Ethics Board met on May 11, 2022 at 2:30 pm by conference call.

Call to Order: Chairman Stephan Fogleman called the Ethics Board meeting to order at 2:37 pm with a quorum present.

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

Per the Open Meetings Act, the Board discloses that it adjourned its virtual open meeting on April 13, 2022 to enter into an administrative session at approximately 2:50 pm. All Board members were present. Members discussed administrative matters including complaints.

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.

Governmental/Charitable Solicitation Waiver Application – Office of Council President Annual Holiday Toy Drive: General Counsel for City Council, Aaron DeGraffenreidt, provided an overview of the solicitation waiver application. Vice Chair Davis inquired about the previous Holiday Toy Drive campaign's final report. Director Hochstetler confirmed receipt of the past campaign's final report and stated that the Movement Team, Inc., would again serve as the new campaign's fiscal sponsor. The Board approved the waiver with a vote of 4-0.

Approval of Written Minutes for April 13, 2022 Public Meeting: Executive Assistant Ford corrected the number of March help desk requests presented at the April 13, 2022 Public Meeting. The Board approved the amended April 13, 2022 minutes with a vote of 4-0.

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

- Ethics Training
 - April – 32 people enrolled in training (pending report from Department of Human Resources)
 - April 20, 2022 – 23 DGS supervisors attended live training
 - May (230 people enrolled)
 - June (42 people registered so far)
 - July (20 people registered so far)
 - August (2 people registered so far)

- **Total FY22 attendees: 697**
- Director Hochstetler explained that the Department of Human Resources would not provide the Ethics Training on the City’s virtual learning platform in June and July since the training is merging to a new platform, Workday. Hochstetler stated that Ethics Board staff will provide the training on the Ethics Board’s website.
- **Help Desk**
 - 287 help desk requests were received and resolved by the Ethics Board Staff in April.
 - 1 help desk request was from a lobbyist.
 - 4 help desk requests were concerning gift solicitations.
 - 239 help desk requests were concerning financial disclosure statements.
 - 27 help desk requests were ethics inquiries.
 - 10 help desk requests were concerning the Ethics Training.
 - 0 help desk requests were administrative (question about deadlines, forms, etc.).
 - 6 help desk requests were not within the Board’s jurisdiction and were referred elsewhere.
 - **Total FY22 requests (April 30, 2022): 1,170**
- **Complaints**
 - Since last Ethics Board meeting:
 - Open Complaints: 3
 - **FY22 Closed Complaints: 9**
 - **FY22 Total Complaints: 12**
- **Advisory Opinions**
 - Pending: 1
 - **FY22 Issued Opinions: 8**
 - **FY22 Published Opinions: 4**
- **Financial Disclosure Statements:**
 - May 9, 2022 – overdue notice sent to 400+ outstanding filers
 - Notified agencies/boards about outstanding filers
- **Gift Solicitation Reports (since last Ethics Board meeting)**
 - 1 gift solicitation application submitted to the Ethics Board.
 - 1 gift solicitation campaign filed final report.
 - 3 gift solicitation campaigns filed interim reports.
 - **FY22 Active Campaigns: 10**
 - **FY22 Expired Campaigns: 9**

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

The public meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.