



ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION MINUTES

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING Wednesday, January 11, 2017

The Ethics Review Commission (“Commission”) convened in a special called meeting on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street, Room 1027, in Austin, Texas.

Commission Chair Peter Einhorn called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Commission members in attendance: Chair Peter Einhorn, Vice Chair Matthew Lamon, Secretary Robert “Ben” Stratmann, Donna Beth McCormick, Debra Danburg, Meagan Harding, J. Michael Ohueri, Paul Quinzi, Kenneth Smith, and Brian Thompson. Commission Members Meagan Harding and Dennis Speight were absent.

City Staff in Attendance: Commission Executive Liaison and Assistant City Attorney Cynthia Tom, Staff Liaison Sue Palmer, City Clerk Jannette Goodall, and Office of the City Clerk Business Process Consultant Bob Guz.

Item No. 1: There were no speakers for general citizen communication.

Item No. 2: Chair Einhorn updated the Commission on the status of two recent Commission recommendations to the City Council: Recommendation No. 20160608-02A regarding proposed amendment of City Code, Section 2-7-41 (Complaints) relating to processing of Commission complaints, and Recommendation No. 20160622-4A regarding subpoena powers for the Office of the City Auditor. There had been no action from the City Council on either recommendation to date.

Item No. 3.a.: Secretary Stratmann made a motion to approve the 2017 regular meeting schedule, which was seconded by Commission Member Thompson. The motion passed on a 9-0 vote, with Commission Members Harding and Speight absent.

Item No. 3.b.: Mr. Guz briefed the Commission on the proposed new campaign finance form ATX 8 for reporting covered transfers under City Code, Chapter 2-2 (Campaign Finance).

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the proposed form with the following changes to box number 6 on page two of the form: (1) change the title from “Affidavit” to “Declaration,” and (2) strike the word “Affiant’s” under the signature line. Commissioner Quinzi seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 7-0-2. Vice Chair Lamon and Secretary Stratmann abstained, and Commission Members Harding and Speight were absent.

Item No. 3.c.: Ms. Goodall and Mr. Guz briefed the Commission on proposed revisions to the Commission's existing complaint form and a proposed new instruction sheet, relating to complaints filed with the Commission under City Code, Chapter 2-7 (Ethics and Financial Disclosure).

Vice Chair Lamon made a motion to approve the revised complaint form and new instruction sheet, which was seconded by Commission Member Thompson. The motion passed on a vote of 9-0, with Commission Members Harding and Speight absent.

Item No. 4: Secretary Stratmann made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2016 regular Commission meeting, which was seconded by Commission Member McCormick. The motion passed on a vote of 9-0, with Commission Members Harding and Speight absent.

Item No. 5: Possible future agenda items discussed included: working group updates, Austin Fair Campaign Finance Fund, campaign finance lawsuit by Don Zimmerman against the City, Public Information Act requests, and campaign finance forms.

Vice Chair Lamon made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The motion passed on a vote of 9-0, with Commission Members Harding and Speight absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.