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ETHICS COMMISSION

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

February 25, 2020

Conference Room C, Second Floor, City Hall

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Ellen Schmitt, Vice Chair, at 3:32 p.m. A quorum was present. Attendees: Darcy Galnor, LaTonya Lipscomb Smith, Ellen Schmitt and Imani A. Boykin (arrived after meeting began). Others in attendance: Carla Miller, Director of the Office of Ethics, Compliance, and Oversight (OECO); Kirby Oberdorfer, Deputy Director OECO; Cherry Shaw Pollock, Office of General Counsel (OGC); and Sandy Homrighouse, Executive Assistant (OECO).

Public in Attendance:

None

New Business:

The meeting began with introductions of the Legislative Committee members and Ethics Commission staff. Ms. Miller referred to the handout titled Legislative Committee and gave a summary:

- Chapter 602 Part 4 conflicts of interest: a lot of work has been done on conflicts of interest but work can still be done on post employment restrictions. Council Member Rory Diamond currently has a bill in process regarding this.
- Chapter 602 Part 8 lobbying: the current verbiage is only the bare minimum and is not adequate. There is a lobbying manual available for review.
- Chapter 602 Part 11 civil penalties: Ms. Oberdorfer stated there have been updates.
- Chapter 602 Part 12 general provisions: Ms. Oberdorfer referred to Section 602.1205.
- Chapter 602 independent contractors and Form 1 filers: The Ethics Commission has dealt with the topic and looking into remaining parts of Chapter 602 could be done.
- Section 602.407 obstruction of evidence: this refers to documents but this needs modernized for example, digital form data.

Ms. Miller added the Legislative Committee can perform a procedural clean up or housekeeping of legislation and also could substantially change legislation in the big picture if the Legislative Committee picks one or two issues that can really make a difference. Ms. Homrighouse will monitor potential changes to state ethics laws proposed by state legislation. The discussion of the summary of the handout titled Legislative Committee continued:

- Task Force on Open Government: Ms. Oberdorfer will email the summary of recommendations report to the Legislative Committee.

- Reviewing confidentiality of information on economic incentives voted by City Council: this is state law.
- PAC and campaign ethics: ongoing campaign accounts were discussed.
- No provision in the Jacksonville Ethics Code addressing conduct unbecoming: this is an employee services human resources issue.
- Ordinance 2018-570: it is possible Council Member Diamond can work with the Legislative Committee on part of the bill.

Ms. Smith made a motion for the Legislative Committee in 2020 to work on legislation for PACs material and transparency. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schmitt. Ms. Boykin requested public comment and none was provided. The Legislative Committee approved the motion unanimously. Ms. Miller will research what other cities are doing regarding these matters.

Public Comment:

Ms. Boykin requested public comment, but none was provided.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:21 p.m.

Sandy Homrighouse
Executive Assistant
Office of Ethics, Compliance and Oversight

Date of Approval

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This is a summary of the meeting and is not a verbatim transcription. A recording is available at the Ethics Commission web site at [http://www.coj.net/departments/ethics-commission/notices,-agendas--minutes-\(1\).aspx](http://www.coj.net/departments/ethics-commission/notices,-agendas--minutes-(1).aspx)