

MINUTES OF THE ETHICS HEARING BOARD

February 11, 2020

City of Pittsburgh Ethics Hearing Board ("Board")
Room 646, City-County Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Board Members Present:

Patrick Bigley
Samantha Bushman
Sean Coleman
Maryann Herman
Alex Matthews
Jennifer Richnafsky

Board Members Absent (Notice Provided):

Khalif Ali
Lynn Davenport
Gregory Monaco

Staff, Advisors and Others Present:

Leanne Davis, Executive Manager
Matthew Stidle, Assistant Solicitor
Dana Robles, Investigator

- Call to Order:
 - This primary monthly meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Board Chairman, Alex Matthews.
- Public Comment:
 - There was no public comment.
- Board Conference:
 - Training and Q&A on administrative functions, specifically concerning processes for oversight and transparency, relevant to the Board's official responsibilities.
- Approval of Minutes:
 - Alex Matthews called for a review of the minutes from December 12, 2019. Pat Bigley moved to approve the minutes as amended. Jennifer Richnafsky seconded the motion. Samantha Bushman and Maryann Herman abstained. The motion passed.
- Complaints, Investigations, Hearings per Section 197.12
 - The Board went into executive session to deliberate a possible settlement.
 - The Board then reopened the meeting and discussed reasons it was appropriate to enter into a settlement agreement in the matter of 19-C-033: the Respondent demonstrated contrition; the Respondent immediately remedied the situation and agreed to conditions ensuring future compliance.
- Executive Manager's Report:
 - Noting the time, the Executive Manager briefly discussed recent work, requested for the Board members to submit bios and review their post-nominal initials and titles as listed on draft letterhead. The Executive Manager shared the positive feedback received from the January 9 training.

MINUTES OF THE ETHICS HEARING BOARD

February 11, 2020, Page 2

- The Board discussed proposed and previously discussed legislative additions or revisions to the Code of Conduct.
 - The Board briefly discussed the proposed hateful activities legislation. Board members noted questions and shared insights from experience interpreting and applying policies that involve harassment. Ultimately, in consideration of the matter pending due to Council's requested legal opinion, and in the interest of time, the Board moved on to additional topics.
- The Executive Manager briefly reviewed highlights of remaining agenda items: cronyism, gift disclosure procedure, added transparency for PACs and ballot measures. Noting the time, the Executive Manager suggested the Board adopt committees to thoroughly review legislation and other complex matters for the full Board's consideration, revision and possible adoption.
- New Business:
 - There was a no new business.
- Adjournment:
 - At approximately 5:14 p.m., Sean Coleman moved to adjourn the public portion of the meeting, and enter into additional executive session for continued deliberations on the final orders. Sam Bushman seconded the motion, all approved, whereupon the meeting concluded.

Next meeting dates:

A full list of 2020 scheduled meetings can be found at <http://www.pittsburghpa.gov/ehb/ehb-meetings>.

Minutes prepared by Dana Robles and reviewed by Leanne Davis.