

MINUTES OF THE ETHICS HEARING BOARD

April 9, 2020

City of Pittsburgh Ethics Hearing Board ("Board")
Video Meeting via Zoom and Livestreamed on Facebook

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Khalif Ali
Gregory Monaco

Staff, Advisors and Others Present:

Leanne Davis, Executive Manager
Dana Robles, Investigator

- Call to Order:
 - This primary monthly meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Board Chairman, Alex Matthews.
 - Chair Matthews and the Executive Manager thanked everyone for their participation in attending through the streamed video conference. Chair Matthews provided an uplifting message of support, recognizing the struggles many are facing in this time.
- Public Comment:
 - There was no public comment.
- Approval of Minutes:
 - Alex Matthews called for a review of the minutes from February 11, 2020. Patrick Bigley moved to approve the minutes. Samantha Bushman seconded the motion. Lynn Davenport abstained. The motion passed.
- Orders Finalized:
 - Alex Matthews noted that the Board's Orders provide for additional time for the Respondents to pay the assessed penalties because of the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - Jennifer Richnafsky motioned to approve the Orders for 19-C-0027 and 19-C-0031. Sean Coleman seconded the motion. Samantha Bushman and Maryann Herman abstained. The motion passed.
 - Jennifer Richnafsky motioned to approve the Orders for 19-C-0024, 19-C-0025, 19-C-0022, 19-C-0023, 19-C-0014, and 19-C-0017. Patrick Bigley seconded the motion. Samantha Bushman, Lynn Davenport, and Maryann Herman abstained. The motion passed.
 - There was consensus that Alex Matthews should execute the Orders through electronic signature given the current circumstances of working remotely and maintaining social distance due to the pandemic.

- Executive Manager's Report:
 - The Executive Manager discussed her work with the annual Statement of Financial Interests ("SOFI") disclosure required of public officials and public employees, as defined by state ethics regulations and legal opinions that provide for an objective analysis test. She noted methods for remote filing and offered to assist the Board members, who are required to file as appointed public officials.

- New Business:
 - The Board discussed forming committees, which board members can sign up for on a volunteer basis, based on their current interests and availability. The committees could provide traditional roles comparable to other boards, and serve to better facilitate discussion on complex topics by providing recommendations or narrowing the scope of issues of interest to the board. There was consensus among the board to proceed. The Executive Manager will look into signup genius or other comparable format and suggest opportunities after work related to the SOFI disclosures slows down.
 - There was no other new business.

- Adjournment:
 - At approximately 4:36 p.m., Lynn Davenport moved to adjourn the meeting. Sam Bushman seconded the motion, all approved, whereupon the meeting concluded.

Next meeting dates:

All meetings will be held via video conference and livestreamed until further notice, with a link to the livestream prominently posted on <http://www.pittsburghpa.gov/ehb/ehb-meetings>, which also provides a full list of 2020 scheduled meetings.

Minutes prepared by Dana Robles and reviewed by Leanne Davis.