



MINUTES OF THE CHESAPEAKE BEACH ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING
July 22, 2020

Commission Members Present: Phillip Kete, Chair
Ingrid Lamb
Michael Linsenbigler

Staff Members Present: Fred Sussman, Commission Counsel
Sharon L. Humm, Commission Clerk

The virtual meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. Those listed as present participated in all portions of the meeting unless otherwise noted. If other individuals participated in aspects of the meeting, they will be identified in the specific line item where their participation occurred.

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the June 24, 2020 Ethics Commission Meeting.

Discussion: The draft minutes of the June 24, 2020 Ethics Commission meeting were presented.

Decision: The Commission unanimously approved the June 24, 2020 Ethics Commission minutes.

Item 2: Review any disclosures made or revised since the June 24, 2020 meeting.

Discussion: The Commission reviewed and unanimously approved Mr. Fink's supplement to his disclosure as complete, as required.

Chairman Kete commented he notified Mr. Cumbo of his requirement to file a financial disclosure for time served in 2019. Having no response to date, Mr. Kete feels the Commission failing to notify Mr. Cumbo after his resignation, as required by the ordinance, falls to the fault of the Commission and is reluctant to pursue an enforcement action. The Commission unanimously concurred.

Decision: Moving forward, the Commission will work with the Administration to incorporate and make known the reporting requirements once individuals are either employed by the Town or appointed to specific boards and commissions and the same requirements upon leaving a position. Chairman Kete asked Ms. Lamb if she would draft a paragraph for consideration.

Item 3: Review proposed changes to the Ethics Commission training material.

Discussion: The Commission reviewed the training material page by page, making recommendations where needed and noting typos.

Decision: Chairman Kete will implement the recommendations, correct typos, and circulate the material for the Commission's review.

Item 4: Revision of Rules of Procedure

Discussion: The Commission reviewed the Ethics Rules of Procedure page by page and made recommendations and noted typos.

Decision: No action was taken on the recommended changes at this time. Chairman Kete will circulate a draft containing all changes for a final review by the Commission, and take action at its next meeting.

Item 5: Address the following issues, possibly including Advisory Opinions

Discussion: 1. What limits, if any, are there on soliciting gifts to charitable or similar organizations?

Decision: The Commission unanimously agreed to issue an advisory opinion.

Discussion: 2. If a council member has recused himself or herself on the discussion of, or vote on, a particular expenditure in a budget, can he or she participate in consideration of the overall budget?

Public comment was received from Mr. Favret on this matter. During discussion, Mr. Favret concurred with the Commission's suggestion of asking thoughts on the matter from the Mayor and Council.

Decision: The Commission will present this question to the Mayor and Council requesting their feedback and consider before rendering a decision.

Discussion: 3. Are elected officials barred from serving on the board of directors of a homeowners association?

Decision: No action taken. The Commission will review the ordinance on this matter and consider a decision at its next meeting.

Discussion: 4. Whether it is proper or desirable for the sheriff's deputies assigned to Chesapeake Beach to work part-time for Chesapeake Beach private businesses?

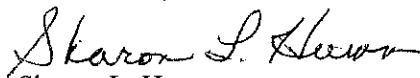
Decision: The Commission discussed this but no action was taken. The Commission will revisit at their next meeting.

Item 6: Schedule next Meeting. The Commission will meet again on August 19, 2020 at 1 pm.

Item 7: Comments by Commissioners and members of the public. None Received.

The meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm.

Submitted by:


Sharon L. Humm
Town Clerk