



OFFICE OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE CHESAPEAKE BEACH ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING NOVEMBER 3, 2021

Commission Members Present: Phillip Kete, Chair
Ingrid Lamb
Peter Feuerle

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 Agenda.**

Discussion: The draft agenda was presented.

Decision: The Commission unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

Item 2: **Approval of the minutes of the September 22, 2021 Ethics Commission Meeting.**

Discussion: The draft minutes of the September 22, 2021 Ethics Commission meeting were presented.

Decision: The Commission unanimously approved the September 22, 2021 Ethics Commission meeting minutes.

Item 3: **Status of May, 2021 recommended changes to the Ethics Ordinance.**

Discussion: Chairman Kete stated the Mayor has indicated the changes will be presented to the Town Council at an upcoming work session for review.

Item 4: **Consider possible problems caused by Town employment of children of elected officials.**

Discussion: Chairman Kete stated the ethics ordinance does not make clear one way or another if children of elected officials should or should not be employed by a Town department.

Decision: Chairman Kete will draft an amendment to the ethics ordinance addressing this for discussion and consideration at its next meeting.

Item 5: **Determine whether there is a need to consider barring gifts to officials from Town entities.**

Discussion: Chairman Kete stated Commissioner Feuerle met with the Town Administration and presented the Commission's concerns, particularly, in gifting water park passes to Council members. It was determined that this practice would no longer continue in the future. Chairman Kete stated, with that, the Commission's concerns were satisfied, and recommended Commissioner Feuerle's report be included in the record.

Decision: The Commission unanimously approved.

Item 5: **Status of obtaining disclosures from officials who left office in 2021.**

Discussion: Chairman Kete reported several officials have recently left office and the ethics ordinance requires they file a public disclosure within 60 days of leaving office. Chairman Kete circulated a draft memo to the Commission for review, that would be sent to the officials requesting they file a disclosure statement up to the time of their departure. The Commission unanimously approved.

Decision: Chairman Kete and the Clerk will work together to send notification to these officials requesting they submit public disclosure statements back to the Town.

Item 6: **Status of obtaining clarification of certain 2020 disclosures.**

Discussion: Chairman Kete reported there are several officials still needing clarification on their 2020 public disclosures.

Decision: Chairman Kete and the Clerk will work together to send notification to these officials requesting clarification.

Item 7: **Schedule next Meeting.** The Commission will meet again on November 9, 2021 at 1 pm to review the Town Council vacancy candidates' public disclosures for completeness.

Item 8: **Comments by Commissioners and members of the public.** None received.

The meeting adjourned at 1:19 pm.

Submitted by:

Sharon L. Humm
Town Clerk