



## CHESAPEAKE BEACH ETHICS COMMISSION AGENDA

**June 29, 2021 at 12:00 PM**

This meeting will be conducted virtually. Public access is available via web at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8697557180> To join via phone please dial **(929) 2056099** and enter the **Meeting ID: 869 755 7180**. Public comment will be accepted via phone audio or computer audio during the public comment period. Participants will be muted until the public comment period and are asked to remain muted until the public comment period. A recording will be posted on the Town's [YouTube Channel](#) after the meeting.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Ethics Commission to discuss the following –
  - A. Approval of the minutes of the June 2, 2021 Ethics Commission Meeting.
  - B. Review 2021 public disclosures by elected and appointed officials.
  - C. Consider certain pending complaints and either dispose of them or decide on procedures for further consideration of them, including identifying issues that have to be resolved and information that should be obtained. A portion of this part of the meeting may be conducted in closed session.
  - D. Consider a pending request for an advisory opinion. A portion of this part of the meeting may be conducted in closed session.
  - E. Consider for adoption certain proposed changes in the rules of procedure.
  - F. Schedule the next regular meeting of the Commission.
  - G. Comments by Commissioners and members of the public. Members that wish to provide public comment can do so via the web at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8697557180> or via phone by dialing **(929) 205-6099** and enter the **Meeting ID: 869 755 7180**.
- IV. Adjournment



## **OFFICE OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION**

### **MINUTES OF THE CHESAPEAKE BEACH ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING JUNE 2, 2021**

**Commission Members Present:** Phillip Kete, Chair  
Ingrid Lamb

**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.

Chairman Kete introduced guest Peter Feuerle, to sit in and observe the meeting. Mr. Feuerle will go before the Town Council for consideration to fill the vacancy left on the Commission.

**Item 1:** **Approval of the minutes of the April 23, 2021 Ethics Commission Meeting.**

**Discussion:** The draft minutes of the April 23, 2021 Ethics Commission meeting were presented.

**Decision:** The Commission unanimously approved the April 23, 2021 Ethics Commission meeting minutes as presented.

**Item 2:** **Approval of the minutes of the April 23, 2021 Closed Session.**

**Discussion:** The draft minutes of the April 23, 2021 Closed Session were presented.

**Decision:** The Commission unanimously approved the April 23, 2021 Closed Session minutes as presented.

**Item 3:** **Approval of the minutes of the May 7, 2021 Ethics Commission meeting.**

**Discussion:** The draft minutes of the May 7, 2021 Ethics Commission meeting were presented.

**Decision:** The Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the May 7, 2021 Ethics Commission meeting.

**Item 4:**        **Consider for adoption certain proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure.**

**Discussion:**     Chairman Kete presented to the Commission the following proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure:

1. **Section VI. Complaints**

**Paragraph 5-** eliminate deadline for deciding that complaint is insufficient- remove the wording “within 21 days of receipt of the complaint”. **Unanimously approved.**

2. **Paragraph 6(b)-** clarify right to get information from Parties and the Town- Add the following wording after the word complaint, “including requesting information from the Parties, the Town and others;”. **Unanimously approved.**

3. **Paragraph 6-** Add new to this paragraph “(d) Hold an informal hearing to elicit evidence and arguments from the parties.” **Unanimously approved.**

4. **Paragraph 12-** Add the following wording after the word problem “or if the respondent, even without agreement with the Commission, has taken action sufficient to remedy the problem (e.g., resigned from his or her position or ceased participating in certain matters)”. **Unanimously approved.**

5. **Consider adding a new paragraph #14-** “Unless the Commission grants a request to keep particular documents confidential, or if the Maryland Public Information Act would preclude disclosure of a document, the complete complaint record will be made available to members of the public upon request.” **Commission unanimously agreed to postpone consideration of this until its next meeting.**

6. **Consider adding a new paragraph #15 –** “The Commission can reconsider any decision it makes under this section except if doing so would harm a party which has justifiably relied on the decision.” **Commission unanimously agreed to postpone consideration of this until its next meeting.**

**Item 5:**        **Clarify whether the definition of “children” in the Ethics Code includes stepchildren.**

**Discussion:**     The Commission discussed whether the definition of “children” in the Ethics Code should include stepchildren. **The Commission unanimously agreed.**

**Decision:**        Chairman Kete will recommend an amendment to the ordinance to include stepchildren under this definition, at an appropriate time.

**Item 6:**        **Consider certain pending complaints and either dispose of them or decide on procedures for further consideration of them, including identifying issues that have to be resolved and information that should be obtained. A portion of this part of the meeting may be conducted in closed session.**

**Decision:**        This was previously completed, and no further action is necessary.

**Item 7:**        **Schedule next Meeting.** The Commission will meet again on June 29, 2021 at 1 pm.

**Item 7:**        **Comments by Commissioners and members of the public.** Commissioner Lamb wanted to recognize Mike Linsenbigler, former Commission member, for his dedicated work on the Commission, with condolences to Mike's family in his passing.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Submitted by:

Sharon L. Humm  
Town Clerk