

Metropolitan Board of Ethical Conduct
Minutes of Meeting

Friday, April 14, 2023

The Board of Ethical Conduct held a meeting on this date in Metropolitan Council Committee Room 1 of the Second Floor of the Historic Courthouse in Nashville, Tennessee.

Persons in Attendance:

Diane DiIanni, Board Chair
Brigid Carpenter, Board Member
Venita Lewis, Board Member
Larry Patton, Board Member
John Spragens, Board Member
Kyonzte Toombs, Ex-Officio Board Member

Courtney Mohan, Legal Counsel
Austin Kyle, Metropolitan Clerk
Shawn Reed, Deputy Clerk

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes of January 4, 2022

Chair DiIanni requested two modifications to the proposed minutes to properly reflect the discussions during the hearing.

Mr. Spragens moved to approve the minutes of January 4, 2022 as modified, which motion was seconded and approved by the following vote “Ayes” (4): DiIanni, Carpenter, Patton, and Spragens; “Noes” (0); “Abstain” (1): Lewis.

Announcement of Appeal Rights

The Clerk announced that parties who disagree with a final decision of the Board may appeal by filing a writ of certiorari with the Davidson County Chancery Court within sixty (60) days of entry of the Order, and parties are encouraged to seek independent legal advice to ensure that applicable procedures and deadlines are properly followed.

Administrative Items

The Clerk gave an update to the Board regarding the new added members as well as indicating that some of the current members had been re-appointed to the Board for a new three-year term. There is still one remaining vacancy on the Board to be filled by the Napier Looby Bar Association.

The Clerk gave a report with details regarding the Annual Disclosure and Benefit reporting required by certain officials and employees of the Metropolitan Government.

Annual Lobbyist Reporting

As required pursuant to Metro Code section 2.196.060, the Clerk provided a report to the Board listing the lobbyists that were registered in calendar year 2022 but either filed their Annual Lobbying and Expense Reports late or failed to file the report.

After discussion, Mr. Spragens moved that the Metro Clerk's office prepare a draft report, highlighting the non-compliance of a number of registered lobbyists and when approved, said report to be delivered to the Vice Mayor and Metropolitan Council, which motion was seconded and approved by the following vote: "Ayes" (4): DiIanni, Carpenter, Lewis, Patton, and Spragens; "Noes" (0); "Abstain" (0).

Next Steps/Scheduling

Once the aforementioned draft report is prepared, a meeting will be scheduled to discuss, modify, and/or approve the report.

Annual Election of Officers

Chair DiIanni called for nominations for Chair of the Board of Ethical Conduct for the next year. Mr. Patton nominated Ms. DiIanni. No further nominations were received. Ms. DiIanni was selected as the Chair of the Board by the following vote: "Ayes" (5): DiIanni, Carpenter, Lewis, Patton, and Spragens; "Noes" (0); "Abstain" (0).

Chair DiIanni called for nominations for Vice Chair of the Board of Ethical Conduct for the next year. Mr. Spragens nominated Ms. Carpenter. No further nominations were received. Ms. Carpenter was selected as the Vice Chair of the Board by the following vote: "Ayes" (5): DiIanni, Carpenter, Lewis, Patton, and Spragens; "Noes" (0); "Abstain" (0).

Adjournment

Upon motion properly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.