

Minutes
Legislative Subcommittee
Ethics Commission
Thursday, February 19, 2009
5:00 p.m.

The Legislative Subcommittee of the Ethics Commission meeting was held Thursday, February 19, 2009 in the Don Davis Committee Room at City Hall-St. James Building, Jacksonville, Florida. The meeting convened at 5:00 p.m.

Attendees: Braxton Gillam, Chair; Helen Ludwig; Pat Sher; Scott Shine; Carla Miller, Ethics Officer; and Susan Stewart, Ethics Coordinator

The Chair called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Gillam, Chair stated there is no set agenda and the purpose of the meeting is to see who is interested in the Legislative Subcommittee and to set goals for the year.

Discussion followed regarding the powers of the Ethics Commission.

The subcommittee discussed changing the code to include civil fines and having the Ethics Officer and the Office of General Counsel assist in the preparation of protocol to investigate complaints, with authority such as subpoena powers.

The Chair stated the committee needed to come up with thoughts and ideas to participant in the Charter Revision Commission Process.

Ethics Officer Miller suggested looking to other municipalities that have independent Ethics Commissions as to the formation and duties.

The Chairman recommended a strategic planning session and to invite someone from Miami to come and speak about the duties and details of their program.

A motion was made and approved to have 1) Ethics Officer, Carla Miller to provide copies of the Miami and Atlanta codes relating to Ethics Commission; 2) recommend a strategic planning session including inviting speakers; and 3) looking into the Charter Revision Commission process.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 11 at 5:00 p.m.

Commission Member Sher and Ethics Officer Miller will work on revising the Internal Operating Procedures of the Ethics Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 5.52 p.m.

Susan Stewart
Ethics Coordinator

Date of Approval