

MINUTES OF ETHICS COMMISSION

DATE: December 15, 2008

Call to order: The Ethics Commission was held in City Hall-St. James Building, Jacksonville, Florida on December 15, 2008. The meeting convened at 3:35 p.m.

Attendees:

Gene Filbert, Vice-chair
Pat Plumlee
Braxton Gillam
Kirby Oberdorfer
Mary Alice Phelan
Helen Ludwig
Pat Sher
Jean Williams, Chair and Mary Swart (excused absences)

Carla Miller, Ethics Officer, Christine Lyle, Ethics Coordinator, Jon Phillips, General Counsel's office and Pam Markham, Inspector General were in attendance.

In J. Williams' absence, G. Filbert called the meeting to order.

The November 24, 2008 Commission meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by B. Gillam and seconded by M. Phelan. The motion was unanimously approved.

Council Member Clay Yarborough attended the meeting to discuss the pending legislation #2008-839 revising Chapter 602 in an effort to gain more transparency in all of the authorities. (gifts and lobbying) The bill will be before full Council on January 5th or January 19th, 2009. The Ethics Officer read a proposed Resolution to support #2008-839. M. Phelan made a motion to adopt the resolution. B. Gillam seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

The Ethics Officer reported on the annual Cogel Conference held in Chicago, IL.

Sub-Committee Reports

Hotline Sub-Committee: P. Plumlee reported that the sub-committee recommends and made a motion that the Commission clear the following cases for closure:

2008-1
2008-18
2008-20
2008-21
2008-23

The motion passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee:

M. Phelan reported and moved for Kirby Oberdorfer as vice-chair per the nominating sub-committee's recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved. M. Phelan on behalf of the nominating sub-committee urged the Commission to consider B. Gillam for the vice-chair in the future.

M. Phelan reported that the subcommittee reviewed approximately 8 strong applicants and narrowed it down to 3 applicants. The 3 applicants are C. Grimes, S. Shine and L. Goller. She moved that the 3 applicants come to a full Commission meeting (January) to be given the opportunity to make a short presentation to the Commission on their behalf. The motion was unanimously approved.

There was discussion to hold the next meeting on January 12, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the direction and goals of the Commission for the year 2009 and to give applicants opportunity to make a presentation.

Public Comment: A citizen commended the Commission on their efforts and noted his appreciation.

Adjourned 4:37 pm.

Next meeting scheduled: January 12, 2009.

Christine Lyle
Ethics Commission Coordinator

Date of Approval

See attachment approved on November 24, 2008.