

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

KIRBY OBERDORFER
Chair



BRAXTON GILLAM
Vice-Chair

GENE FILBERT
L. H. HUTTON
HELEN LUDWIG
PATRICK PLUMLEE

ETHICS COMMISSION

MINUTES
March 22, 2010
5:00 p.m.
Council Chambers,
City Hall

SCOTT SHINE
MARY SWART
RHONDA PEOPLES-
WATERS

Attendance: Chair; Kirby Oberdorfer, Vice Chair; Braxton Gillam, Gene Filbert, L.E. Hutton, Helen Ludwig, Pat Plumlee, Scott Shine and Mary Swart
Excused: Rhonda Peoples-Waters

Also in attendance: Carla Miller, Ethics Officer; Jon Phillips, Office of General Counsel; and Susan Stewart, Ethics Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

Carla provided the ethics thought.

The minutes, for the February 22, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved. Minutes from the following subcommittees were unanimously approved: Bylaws Subcommittee 11/2/09; Awards Subcommittee 12/2/2009; and Nominating Subcommittee 12/7/2009.

Carla provided the Ethics Office report.

A motion was made to send a formal written request from the Ethics Commission to the Office of General requesting that there be a procedure in place that notifies the commission and the ethics officer once a bill has been has been filed. The motion carried unanimously.

The Chair thanked Professor Plumlee for his service on the Ethics Commission and presented him with a certificate.

Kirby announced that Sunshine training will be held immediately preceding the next Ethics Commission meeting. Training will be Monday, April 26 at 3:00 p.m. for training and the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

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The Ethics Commission complaint form was discussed. A motion was made by Mary, Chair of the Hotline subcommittee that until the commission receives a response to their legal inquiry from General Counsel's office, which can impact on their procedures, any ethics complaint filed by a citizen or by an Ethics Commissioner shall be filed confidentially on the "complaint form," sent to the ethics officer and handled by the procedures approved by the commission and the General Counsel's Office in the "Hotline Procedure Manual." The motion passed unanimously.

A letter to the General Counsel dated March 16, 2010, was discussed seeking clarification regarding complaints.

Committee Reports:

Transparency & Open Government:

- Scott updated the commission of the last meeting of the subcommittee.

Hotline Subcommittee: Mary, as chair, provided the report on the following:

- 2007-04 recommend to close – the motion carried unanimously
- 2010-01 recommend to close – the motion carried unanimously
- 2010-02 recommend to close and refer to legislative subcommittee to continue reviewing lobbying laws for potential revisions and oversight of the process by the ethics officer or ethics commission send a letter in support of funding an online lobby registration to the President of the City Council and Chair of Finance. Also, the Ethics Officer will send a training letter to all lobbyists as to listing bill numbers – the motion carried unanimously.
- 2010-03 recommend to close and a motion to refer to Legislative Subcommittee to consider the factual situation regarding revisions of the lobbying law - the motion carried unanimously.

Legislative Subcommittee: Braxton, as chair, provided the following report:

- Changes to 2010-135 – page 6, item 4 – change the language relating to training- change and 15.107 and on page 8, item (b). The rest of the amendment language stays the same - the motion carried unanimously.

Scott offered for the record that he does not agree with the language that ethics officer or administration approves public meeting locations, section 15.104, lines 24 and after.

Jon offered that the Ethics Commission that the preliminary part of investigations can be confidential based on state and local law.

Goals for the year will be deferred until the next meeting.

The date and time of the next meeting was set for Monday, April 26, following the ethics training at 3:00 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Susan Stewart

Ethics Commission Coordinator

Date of Approval

This is a summary of the meeting and is not a verbatim transcription. A tape recording of these proceedings is available in the Duval Legislative Delegation Office at City Hall.