

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

GENE FILBERT  
*Chair*



KIRBY OBERDORFER  
*Vice-Chair*

**ETHICS COMMISSION**

Minutes  
Legislative Subcommittee  
Ethics Commission  
Wednesday, March 11, 2009  
5:00 p.m.

BRAXTON GILLAM  
HELEN LUDWIG  
PATRICK PLUMLEE

PATRICIA SHER  
SCOTT SHINE  
MARY SWART  
JAY WILLIAMS

A Legislative Subcommittee meeting of the Ethics Commission met Wednesday, March 11, 2009 in the Lynwood Roberts Room at City Hall-St. James Building, Jacksonville, Florida.

Attendees: Braxton Gillam, Chair; Helen Ludwig, Kirby Oberdorfer, Pat Sher, Scott Shine and Mary Swart

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Chairman Braxton Gillam, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made and seconded to approve minutes from the last meeting.

The Chair called on Carla Miller who reported that the members have been provided copies of other codes and she will provide an analysis at a later time. She then stated that applications were being taken for the Charter Revision Commission.

Carla Miller reported on complaints she received as a result of the Folio article, and that there were five complaints, of which four were complaints about the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office asking for a name of requestors of public records. The other complaint pertained to the JAA, not the city.

She reported the City of Jacksonville now has a webpage dedicated to public records requests, for which she provided a handout.

The Chairman explained the purpose of the subcommittee and requested to hear from the public relating to their experience with public records request from citizens with the City of Jacksonville.

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Mr. Marvin Edwards detailed his account of difficulty in obtaining various records in the past from the City of Jacksonville and quoted from letters and articles in his file. He suggested a solution would be for an investigation by the State Attorney and if the State Attorney is unwilling to address the matter to seek the assistance of the Attorney General's Office.

The Chairman asked Mr. Edwards if the Commission could have copies of the letters and articles. Mr. Edwards agreed.

Mr. Seman informed the members of a problem he had getting to the correct agency for disposition of abandoned property and then the denial of his records request with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office relating to vehicle registration. He inquired if various agencies are under the Sunshine Law and what is the process to follow to get compliance?

Cindy Laquidara will assist him after the meeting to address his questions.

Anne Schindler from Folio Weekly reported to the subcommittee her issues relating to public records request from several years ago. She provided copies of documents as to why she feels it is relevant today. Her public records requests were relating to the Super Bowl Host Committee, the Attorney General's request for mediation; Touchdown Jacksonville and the Stadium renovations.

Leslie Goller, expressed her concern regarding compliance of the public requests and her inquiries with the Office of General Counsel. She also expressed her opinion on the interpretation of the contract between the City of Jacksonville and the Super Bowl Host Committee.

Tony Bates asked for clarification on the committee's objectives and charges.

Cindy Laquidara responded to the complaints on behalf of the City of Jacksonville and the Office of General Counsel. She stated she will recommend for future public records requests that a point person be assigned to the project.

Pat Sher said she would like to make a motion, if appropriate, that the Office of General Counsel provide the Super Bowl Host Committee records. There was no second.

The Chairman requested Carla Miller and Jon Phillips work together and be prepared for the follow-up meeting as to the jurisdiction of the commission and currently what the commission can do. Also at the meeting there will be discussion regarding any suggestions for changes as to Ethics Code regarding the Commissions jurisdiction or powers.

Ms. Miller stated she had asked Kirk Sherman, Council Auditor, about the records he had requested from the Super Bowl Host Committee and he informed her that he did not get the requested records.

The Chairman set the next meeting for Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 6.54 p.m.

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Susan Stewart  
Ethics Coordinator

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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.