YWANA ALLEN
CHAIR

GEORGE CANDLER
JOHN HARTLEY
LESLIE JEAN-BART
MARIA MARK (Nominated)

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

Jacksonville
Where Florida Begins.

BRIAN AULL
VICE CHAIR

JOSEPH ROGAN
DAVID RYBAK
ANTHONY SALEM

ETHICS COMMISSION

MINUTES
October 3, 2016
Don Davis Room
City Hall

The meeting was called to order by Joe Jacquot, Chair, at 5:06 p.m. A quorum was present.

Attendees: Ywana Allen, Brian Aull, Richard Brown, Dr. George Candler, John Hartley, Tom Paul, David Rybak and Anthony Salem. Other attendees: Carla Miller, Director Office of Ethics, Compliance and Oversight ("OECO"); Kirby Oberdorfer, Deputy Director OECO; and Cherry Shaw Pollock, Assistant General Counsel, Office of General Counsel ("OGC").

Public in Attendance: Conrad Markle and John Nooney (Note: only individuals who signed the attendance sheet and noted their election to be recognized are included in the minutes).

Chair Jacquot opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Miller then provided the Ethics Thought. Next, the Ethics Commission reviewed the minutes from the prior Ethics Commission Executive Session Shade meeting and regular meeting on September 6, 2016. The minutes from both the Executive Session Shade meeting and regular meeting were approved by unanimous vote 9-0.

Staff Reports

Next, Ms. Miller provided the OECO update. She reported that the City Council recently approved a budget increase in the salary for Ms. Oberdorfer and a new part-time assistant position for the OECO. Ms. Miller advised that the various Independent Authorities will be providing monetary contributions to help fund the salary increase for Ms. Oberdorfer and the part-time assistant position. Ms. Miller also provided a status update on Resolution 2016-535 filed by Council Member Crescimbeni regarding the proposed relocation of the Inspector General's Office to City Hall. Ms. Miller advised that the Resolution was withdrawn by Council Member Crescimbeni. Finally, Ms. Miller advised of two presentations she would be giving in December at a UN Conference on transparency in Panama and the Association of Moral Education conference at Harvard University in Boston.

Ms. Pollock advised that she did not have a report for the OGC.

Committee Reports

Mr. Brown advised that the Complaints Committee did not have a report.

Mr. Paul provided the report of the Internal Operations Committee. He advised the committee

had to reschedule its meeting to next month and would continue working on revising the Ethics Commission Strategic Plan.

Mr. Aull subsequently provided the report of the Legislative Committee. Mr. Aull first summarized the meeting he and Ms. Oberdorfer had with Ms. Peggy Sidman of the OGC regarding public comments at City Council meetings. Mr. Aull advised the Legislative Committee would be meeting soon to address this issue.

Next, the Open Government Committee did not have any report.

Unfinished Business

The Ethics Commission then discussed the process and procedure for selecting its new member and filling a forthcoming vacancy on the Ethics Commission. The Commission also discussed the appointment of the Nominating Committee. Ms. Miller advised that Ms. Allen had expressed interest in serving as Chair of the Ethics Commission in 2017 and Mr. Aull expressed interest in serving as Vice-Chair in 2017. Ms. Miller further advised that Mr. Brown would be leaving the Ethics Commission at the end of his term in December 2016 and there would be some vacancies to fill. Dr. Candler, Mr. Salem and Mr. Hartley volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee and Dr. Candler agreed to serve as chair of the committee again this year. Mr. Paul made a motion to approve the creation of the ad hoc Nominating Committee and its members to consist of Dr. Candler as Chair, Mr. Salem and Mr. Hartley. Motion seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Following discussion of the forthcoming vacancies on the Ethics Commission, Mr. Salem subsequently made a motion for the Ethics Commission to reappoint Ms. Allen to a second term on the Ethics Commission. Mr. Hartley seconded the motion. Following discussion, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

New Business

The Ethics Commission next considered the process and procedures for handling anonymous complaints that are dismissed and/or declined for self-initiation by the Ethics Commission. The Commission members were apprised of the difference between written, sworn complaints filed with the Ethics Commission and those that come to the Commission through anonymous complaints.

Ms. Allen then provided an update of the Inspector General Selection and Retention Committee's prior meeting on September 8, 2016 regarding the selection of applicants to interview for the Inspector General position. Ms. Allen advised that the top two candidates who interviewed for the Inspector General position declined to accept the appointment and the Inspector General Selection and Retention Committee will meet again on October 14, 2016 to decide the next step for the selection process.

Thereafter, the Ethics Commission discussed the details of the upcoming Holiday Gathering at Restaurant Orsay on December 12, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Oberdorfer advised the Ethics Commission members she would send information to them regarding menu selections for the dinner.

Public Comment

Mr. Nooney spoke in support of the Inspector General's Office remaining in the Yates building and for his support of a particular candidate that had interviewed for the Inspector General position.

Mr. Markle also spoke regarding the selection of the next Inspector General. He indicated his support for the Inspector General Selection and Retention Committee to emphasize the next Inspector General to establish connections with the citizens and the importance of restoring public trust. Mr. Markle then provided a summary of the interviews of the candidates for the Inspector General position.

Announcements

Following discussion, the Ethics Commission scheduled its next meeting for November 14, 2016.

The meeting was then adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Kirby Oberdorfer, Ethics Deputy Director

1/09/2017
Date of Approval

This is a summary of the meeting and is not a verbatim transcription. A recording of these proceedings is available http://www.coj.net/departments/ethics-office/notices,-agendas---minutes.aspx