



City of Kingston Board of Ethics

Allen Nace, *Chair*
Michael Decker
Charlotte Adamis
John Douglas Getman

ETHICS BOARD MINUTES **May 9, 2024** **City Hall Conference Room 2**

The meeting of the City of Kingston Ethics Board was called to order by Vice-Chairman Michael Decker at 4:07 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Michael Decker, Vice-Chair Charlotte Adamis, , John "Doug" Getman
Also present were Corp Counsel Matt Jankowski and Ethics Board Clerk Ameer Peterson.
Excused: Allen Nace, Chair

Minutes: The minutes from the December 7, 2023 meeting were received and reviewed by the board members. Motion to approve the minutes: Charlotte Adamis; seconded by Doug Getman. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda:

Old Business:

Updated on status of Task Force: The Task Force will approach the Common Council to review new code proposal. There will be a public information meeting during a Common Council meeting. Board has to work on rules and regulations and revised complaint form, neither of which has to be approved by Common Council.

The Code and financial disclosure form must be approved by the Common Council.

The Task Force had two (2) sessions of training for department heads and elected officials. Matt, Mike, and Charlotte attended.

Ameer designed a new financial disclosure tracking form which will be used going forward.

New business:

Review financial disclosure status of staff, board/commission members. Motion to go into Executive Session 4:19. Motion made by Charlotte, seconded by Doug. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session:

A few financial disclosures need to be corrected: Drew Andrews, Michele Hirsch, Kara Grundig, Robert Dennison, Matt Dysard.

Code requires that they be notified in writing stating the deficiency, with 30 days to correct.

The process of returning disclosure statements was discussed. Ameer will mail letters notifying the recipients of their deficiencies.

Non-compliant:

Mary Neubauer – ZBA
Marge Knox – HRC
Felix Santiago – HRC
Brad Borquist – KLDC
? DeRosalia – KLDC
Crystal Jacob – KLDC – will do it at the meeting in June

Recommend to Common Council that record-keeping maintained in Clerk's Office.

Annual letter goes to Mayor.

Task Force has to work on a way to review a list that is not always accurate.

The Code needs to address additional flexibility to add/delete any position as determined by the Common Council.

Matt: One example is three (3) local laws that will be voted on at the June meeting. One is a real property tax that will require developers to pay into a fund. This will require the creation of a board that will have to determine the allocation of the funds received.

Code needs to be updated to add the Director of Building Safety. Also, allow for updates throughout the year of department heads and boards/commissions.

After letters are sent if people are not in compliance, it's not desired to assess penalties.

Charlotte motioned to instead recommend that they are removed from the board; Chair, department head, and Mayor notified in writing.

Doug seconded the motion but preferred a more personal approach first before sending a letter.

Since Ameer knows some of those who are not in compliance, she will call/email them in addition to sending letters. There are five (5) whose disclosures need to be corrected and five (5) not in compliance.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to close Executive Session – 5:31: Doug; seconded by Charlotte. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Meeting

Tentative date of next meeting, June 26 at 5:00 p.m..

Motion to Adjourn Meeting 5:33 made by Doug; Seconded by Charlotte. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ameer Peterson