

BOARD OF ETHICS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2019, 5 P.M.
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Huerta and Members House, Macias, Stahovich, Thompson, Foley (arrived at 5:06 p.m.), and Ford (arrived at 5:06 p.m.)

ABSENT: Members Nelson and Tucker

STAFF PRESENT: Colleen Nicol and Brandon Mercer

Chair Huerta convened the Board of Ethics meeting at 5 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no one present wishing to speak.

MINUTES

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Stahovich and seconded by Member House to approve the minutes of October 3, 2019, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

EXCUSAL OF ABSENCES

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Stahovich and seconded by Member House to excuse the absences of Gloria Huerta, Champagne Ford, and Wendel Tucker from the meeting of October 3, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Members Foley and Ford arrived during the following discussion.

MARKETING MATERIALS REVIEW - WEBSITE ENHANCEMENTS

City Clerk Nicol reviewed the updated flyer prepared by the Marketing Division and amended as requested by the Board of Ethics at the last meeting. The Board was pleased with the final version. City Clerk Nicol reviewed the website changes detailing information on the complaint process. The Board was pleased with the updated website content. No formal action was required or taken.

CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY OVERSIGHT

The Board of Ethics reviewed the City of Oakland Public Ethics Commission scope of work and regulations. Deputy City Attorney Mercer noted that the City of Oakland ordinance provisions exceed the authority of the Board of Ethics and noted that there are State laws in place regulating campaigns and campaign financing. Many of the Oakland provisions would require a Charter amendment

to be implemented in the City of Riverside. Following discussion, the Board of Ethics acknowledged the laws already in place in this regard and took no action on the matter.

ALTERNATIVES TO CENSURE FOR ELECTED OFFICIAL CODE OF ETHICS VIOLATIONS

Following discussion of potential alternatives to public censure of elected officials such as apology, training, training on conflict resolution, removal from committees, removal as a committee chair, removal from representation on regional committees, and removal from mayor pro tem rotation for Code of Ethics violations, it was moved by Member House and seconded by Member Stahovich to create an ad hoc committee to explore alternatives to public censure of elected officials for violation of the Code of Ethics for presentation of recommendations to the City Council Governmental Affairs Committee by June 2020 with Members Stahovich, House, and Macias serving. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

Chair Huerta reported that the City Council accepted the reports on the annual review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct and activities of the Board of Ethics at their meeting of October 1, 2019.

REPORT OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES BY BOARD MEMBERS

There was nothing to report on meetings and activities by Board Members.

RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2.78 CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT AND CHAPTER 2.80 BOARD OF ETHICS

There were no comments on Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 2.78 Code of Ethics and Conduct and Chapter 2.80 Board of Ethics.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD CONSIDERATION AS REQUESTED BY BOARD OF ETHICS MEMBERS

There were no items requested for future Board of Ethics meetings. The Ad Hoc Committee will report in February.

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



COLLEEN J. NICOL
City Clerk