

BOARD OF ETHICS
THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2022, 5 P.M.
VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON MEETING
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Stahovich, and Members DeMont, Foley, Huerta, Newman, and Vega

ABSENT: Vice Chair Keen, Members De Herrera, and Foreman

STAFF PRESENT: Donesia Gause and Susan Wilson

Chair Stahovich convened the Board of Ethics meeting at 5:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no one wishing to address the Board.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Foley to approve the Consent Calendar as presented below affirming the actions appropriate to each item. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of July 7, 2022, were approved as presented.

The Board of Ethics excused the absences of Members De Herrera, Newman, and Vega from July 7, 2022, meeting.

Member Vega joined the meeting at this time.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

REVIEW ITEMS APPROVED BY AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR 2021 ANNUAL REVIEW OF RMC 2.78 - CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT SUBMITTED TO INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESS COMMITTEE

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Vega to forward the ordinance as presented and approved for introduction by the City Council on February 15, 2022, to the 2022 annual review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct to consider an amendment to Section 2.78.090.E regarding the de novo hearing to be conducted by the same hearing panel. The motion carried unanimously.

CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT ANNUAL REVIEW

Following discussion and review of comments from City boards and commissions for the annual review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Foley that the City Council Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee perform the annual review of the effectiveness of the Code of Ethics and Conduct and consider the recommendations of the Board to Section 2.78.070 as follows: (1) insertion of the following language after existing Section 2.78.070.E for a new "Section 2.78.070.F - The complainant may be permitted to submit one revised complaint to only add additional allegations of prohibited conduct. This updated complaint must be submitted to the City Clerk following the established policies and procedures within thirty (30) days of the original complaint being filed with the Clerk and within the 180 calendar days of discovery of an alleged violation of this chapter. The only amendment may be the addition of additional allegations of violations of prohibited conduct"; and (2) insertion of the following language after existing Section 2.78.070.F for new "Section 2.78.070.H - If an amended complaint is submitted to the City Clerk within the 30-day time frame, the City Clerk reviews the amended complaint for completeness only. The time frames established in the RMC for actions by the City Clerk, Hearing Panel and Ethics Board will be reset using the date that the amended complaint has been accepted and determined to be complete; and new "Section 2.78.070.I - The acceptance of the amended complaint is not deemed to be a continuance.

The Museum of Riverside Board reviewed Section 2.78.100.A - Enforcement and Sanctions and noted that Elected Officials does not have an item addressing the removal from office, and Section B5 addresses how appointed Boards/Commission members can be removed from their position on a Board or Commission. The Board inquired if there is another removal/ review process that applies to removing an elected official should a violation occur, and requested it be referenced in this section. The motion carried unanimously.

FORM AD HOC COMMITTEE TO WORK WITH INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES COMMITTEE (ICGC) TO REVIEW THE CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Foley to appoint Chair Stahovich, Members Foley, Huerta, and Newman as an alternate to an ad hoc committee as requested by the ICGC which will include all members of the City Council Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee for review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct complaint hearing process. The motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORITY AND CONDITIONS FOR USE OF OUTSIDE LEGAL COUNSEL IN LIEU OF THE CITY ATTORNEY TO ADVISE THE BOARD OF ETHICS

The Board received a presentation on the authority and conditions for use of outside legal counsel in lieu of the City Attorney to advise the Board of Ethics.

COMMUNICATIONS

BRIEF REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED BY BOARD MEMBER

Member DeMont reported on a Steering Committee meeting she attended with the Mayor's office regarding a new website the City is creating to assist high school seniors and college graduates on choices that will direct them to stay in the City to attend college and also to find employment after graduation.

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

There were no future items requested at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 5:51p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



DONESIA GAUSE
City Clerk