BOARD OF ETHICS THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2021, 5 P.M. VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON MEETING

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Chair Nelson, Vice Chair Stahovich, Members Foley, Ford,

Keen, and Vega

ABSENT:

Members Graham, Huerta, and Newman

STAFF PRESENT:

Donesia Gause and Anthony Beaumon

Chair Nelson convened the Board of Ethics meeting at 5:01 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no one wishing to speak.

MINUTES

Following discussion, it was moved by Vice Chair Stahovich and seconded by Member Keen to approve the minutes of June 3, 2021, as presented. The motion carried with Member Foley abstaining.

EXCUSAL OF ABSENCE

Following discussion, it was moved by Vice Chair Stahovich and seconded by Member Keen to excuse the absence of Member Foley from the meeting of June 3, 2021. The motion with Member Foley abstaining.

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

Member Foley requested clarification on who the final determinant is of the City ordinance language in case of dispute. Chair Nelson requested clarification on the Sunshine Ordinance definition of "urgency", consider review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct as to whether or not the entire City Council is guilty of violating the Sunshine Ordinance when one councilmember violates the Sunshine Ordinance, and review the appeal process. Vice Chair Stahovich recommended a review of each section of the Code of Ethics and Conduct for recommendations to the Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee.

Member Vega joined the meeting at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES COMMITTEE AND CITY COUNCIL AND ISSUES RAISED WITH THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

Vice Chair Stahovich and Chair Nelson spoke on the items to be addressed at the Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee: (1) De Novo hearing; (2) procedures that differ from the Code of Ethics and Conduct; and (3) Board of Ethics recommendation authority. Member Foley requested a discussion on the scope and process. Member Keen requested discussion on De Novo hearing related to hearing panel composition and providing reports to City Council on every complaint.

REPORT ON INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES COMMITTEE AND CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

Vice Chair Stahovich gave a summary of City Council actions on the Allotta sanctions. Chair Nelson gave a report of City Council actions on the Hunter appeal. Vice Chair Stahovich offered additional comments related to clear error or an abuse of discretion provision. Senior Deputy City Attorney Beaumon clarified the use of power vs discretion in the Code of Ethics and Conduct. Member Foley spoke on the City Council discussion during the Hunter hearing and requested term definition clarified.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT ON VALIDATION PROCESS FOR APPOINTED AND ELECTED OFFICIALS TO VET POLICY PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENT OF COMPLAINT AFTER FILING

There was nothing to report on Ad Hoc Committee validation process for appointed and elected officials to vet policy proposals and amendment of complaint after filing.

REPORT OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES BY BOARD MEMBERS

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

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

No items for future consideration were requested.

The meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DONESIA GAUSE

City Clerk