

BOARD OF ETHICS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020, 5 P.M.
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Huerta, Vice Chair Nelson and Members Foley, House, Macias, and Tucker

ABSENT: Members Ford and Stahovich

STAFF PRESENT: Colleen Nicol and Brandon Mercer

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Rich Gardner spoke regarding the St. Michael's housing project.

MINUTES

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Tucker and seconded by Member House to approve the minutes of January 2, 2020, as presented. Motion carried with Chair Huerta abstaining.

EXCUSAL OF ABSENCES

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Tucker and seconded by Vice Chair Nelson to excuse the absences of Gloria Huerta and Freya Foley from the meeting of January 2, 2020. Motion carried with Chair Huerta and Member Foley abstaining.

SANCTIONS FOR VIOLATION OF CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT

Following discussion, it was moved by Member House and seconded by Member Tucker to forward to the City Council Governmental Affairs Committee the draft ordinance amending Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 2.78 Code of Ethics and Conduct to add sanction options for violation of the Code of Ethics and Conduct.

Following further discussion, it was moved by Member Tucker and seconded by Member House to call the question. Motion carried with Member Foley voting no. Subsequently, the main motion carried with Member Foley abstaining.

REPORT ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

Chair Huerta reported on a brief conversation with Councilmember Melendrez, Chair of the City Council Governmental Affairs Committee, suggesting that the Board of Ethics could be helpful in educating newly elected officials on the role of the Board of Ethics and interpretation of the Code of Ethics.

Vice Chair Nelson and Chair Huerta reported that they spoke at a recent City Council meeting as private citizens regarding an ethics issue involving a Councilmember circumventing a process.

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

Chair Huerta thanked the outgoing Board members for their service. Deputy City Attorney Mercer asked if the Board wished the correspondence presented during public comment regarding the St. Michael's housing project be agendaized for a future meeting. The Board Members agreed that a formal complaint would be the appropriate step to bring the matter before them. The City Clerk agreed to contact Mr. Gardner with complaint process information.

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



COLLEEN J. NICOL
City Clerk