

BOARD OF ETHICS
THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021, 5 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Nelson, Vice Chair Stahovich, Members Foley, Ford, Graham, Huerta, Keen, Newman, and Vega

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Donesia Gause, Eva Arseo, and Brandon Mercer

Chair Nelson convened the Board of Ethics meeting at 5:02 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 Member Vega and seconded by Member Newman to approve the minutes of April 1, 2021, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EXCUSAL OF ABSENCES

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Stahovich and seconded by Member Huerta to excuse the absences of Members Graham and Keen from the meeting of April 1, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chair Nelson announced that the Board will be on the Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee June calendar. Member Stahovich spoke on hearings and continuances, process for transmittal of hearing findings, and possible dates for joint workshop with the City Council at the request of Councilmember Conder.

REPORT OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES BY BOARD MEMBERS

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

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND DECISION FOR HUNTER V. PLASCENCIA -
APRIL 14, 2021

Following discussion, it was moved by Panel Member Keen and seconded by Panel Member Graham to amend the Statement of Findings and Decision that Councilwoman Plascencia violated Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.060(M) Violations of federal, State, or local law prohibited by failing to meet the Riverside Municipal Code Section 4.05.050(D)(2)(a) Excuse of Sunshine Notice Requirements because the need to take immediate action was not discussed or considered and to include that (1) Councilwoman Plascencia, the City Council, and the City Manager were well aware of the request to put the union bug on the business cards long before the agenda was created; and (2) to include the quotes from City Manager Zelinka from the transcript of the September 30, 2020, Board of Ethics Hearing Panel, page 86, line 24-25 " .. *indicated we had met. And I believe, based on my Outlook archives, we met on November 12th of 2019. And ...* " and page 87, lines 5-7, "*During that conversation, the councilwoman, then the councilmember-elect, indicated interest in the union bug logo on her card. And while I have family*", and page 88 lines 1-9, "*the -- I think it was the next -- the next day, Shanae received a call in response to the email from multiple councilmembers, but -- or other councilmembers, I don't know who all, but Councilwoman-Elect Plascencia communicated with Shanae about a lot of those logistics and -- and mentioned or had conversations about, brought up the topic of the union bug, or had a conversation with Shanae about the topic. Shanae brought that to my attention, and ...* " The motion carried unanimously.

Following further discussion, it was moved by Panel Member Nelson and seconded by Panel Chair Keen to amend the Statement of Findings and Decision that Councilwoman Plascencia violated Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.060(D) Advocacy of private interests of third parties in certain circumstances prohibited by use of the union bug. The findings were based on the evidence presented that the union bug is the registered trademark and logo with a stated purpose including use as part of a public relations campaign to induce customers to buy union made product and it is a badge of union prestige to attract new members and certifies allegiance to a specific party. The motion carried unanimously.

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.

DISCUSSION ON TIMELINESS OF RESOLUTIONS OF COMPLAINTS FOR PROCEDURAL
CHANGES

There was nothing to report by Board Members.

REVIEW APPEAL PROCESS OF HEARING PANEL FINDINGS FOR PROCEDURAL CHANGES

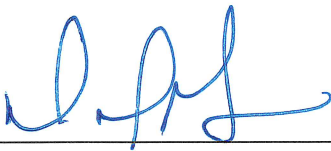
There was nothing to report by Board Members.

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

Chair Nelson requested discussion topics for Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



DONESIA GAUSE
City Clerk