



City of Rockville Ethics Commission

Minutes

Diamondback Terrapin Conference Room

Meeting No. 18-01

Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 6:30 PM

Commissioners Present: Eugene Thirolf, Kris Dighe, Jaime Espinosa, Rosanne Hurwitz

City Staff : Eliot Schaefer

- I. Convene
Meeting convened.
- II. Approval of Agenda
Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Hurwitz, seconded by Commissioner Dighe, and passed unanimously (4-0).
- III. Approval of Minutes
November 15, 2017 – Motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Dighe, seconded by Commission Hurwitz, and passed unanimously (4-0).
- IV. Discussion of Draft Advisory Opinion
(Commissioner Espinosa recused himself from the discussion.)
The Commission discussed the draft opinion. Commissioner Dighe requested that non-substantive edits be made to the draft opinion. Commissioner Hurwitz moved to approve the draft opinion as amended, and motion was seconded by Commissioner Dighe. The motion passed unanimously (3-0).
- V. Review of Financial Disclosure Forms & Cover Letter
The Commission discussed the forms and cover letters. Chair Thirolf indicated that he believed the Commission should notify and remind the Mayor and Council of the Commission’s proposed amendments to the definition of “interest,” which would exclude ETFs and Mutual Funds from the definition. Chair Thirolf indicated that he was willing to speak at a Mayor and Council meeting. The Commission supported Chair Thirolf’s proposal and instructed staff to work with Chair Thirolf to coordinate the possibility of getting on the Mayor and Council agenda.
- VI. Discussion on Commission’s Rules of Procedure
The Commission discussed the Rules of Procedure. The Commission instructed staff to add a new section that deals with assessing fines with the language based

on what was proposed by Commissioner Espinosa. The Commission instructed staff to revise the format of the Rules of Procedure so that Sections VI. through VIII. are subsections of Section V. as all sections deal with the issue of complaints. The Commission instructed staff to make grammar and formatting changes to Section IV., Paragraph 3 and Section V., Paragraph 12. The Commission instructed staff to delete the word “home” and replace it with “mailing” in Section V., Paragraph 3. The Commission instructed staff to add “the person subject to the complaint” to Section V., Paragraph 14.

VII. Old/New Business

- Staff provided the Commission with an update on the online training.
- Staff informed the Commission that a Request for an Advisory Opinion was filed, and that it would be reviewed by the City Attorney’s Office for completeness and placed on an upcoming agenda.
- The Commission’s next meetings are scheduled for: February 21, 2018 at 6:30pm and March 21, 2018 at 6:30pm.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Hurwitz, seconded by Commissioner Dighe, and passed unanimously (4-0).