



## City of Rockville Ethics Commission

### Minutes

Diamondback Terrapin Conference Room

Meeting No. 18-02

Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 6:30 PM

**Commissioners Present:** Rosanne Hurwitz (Temporary Chair), Kris Dighe, Jaime Espinosa (via phone), Kevin Jenkins, Eugene Thirolf (arrived at 7:26pm)

**City Staff :** Eliot Schaefer

- I. Convene  
Meeting convened.
- II. Temporary Chair  
Motion to appoint Rosanne Hurwitz as temporary chair made by Commissioner Dighe, seconded by Commissioner Jenkins, and passed unanimously (4-0). Commissioner Hurwitz accepted the nomination and appointment.
- III. Approval of Agenda  
Commissioner Dighe requested that the agenda be amended to correct a date. Motion to approve the agenda, as amended, was made by Commissioner Dighe, seconded by Commissioner Jenkins, and passed unanimously (4-0).
- IV. Approval of Minutes  
January 17, 2018 – Commissioner Dighe requested that the minutes be amended to reflect the correct future meeting dates. Motion to approve the minutes, as amended, was made by Commissioner Dighe, seconded by Commission Jenkins, and passed unanimously (4-0).
- V. Discussion of Request for Advisory Opinion  
The Commission discussed the Request for Advisory Opinion. The Commission allowed Clark Reed, a member of the City’s Environment Commission, to address the Commission on the request. Mr. Reed provided a handout entitled “Government funding for Local Government” from the Maryland Governor’s Grants Conference. The Commission allowed Randy Gentry to address the Commission on the request. Commissioner Jenkins moved to table the discussion on the request, which was seconded by Commissioner Thirolf, and passed unanimously (5-0). The Commission directed staff to provide information (i) on how the State Ethics Commission has defined the term “gift,” (ii) whether the State Ethics Commission has issued guidance or opinions on the

solicitation of gifts provision in State law; and (iii) whether any other municipalities have issued opinions with a similar set of facts.

(Commissioner Thirolf arrived at 7:36 pm during the Discussion of Request for Advisory Opinion)

VI. Discussion on Commission's Rules of Procedure

Staff presented the draft amendments to the Rules of Procedure in accordance with the discussions at the January meeting. Commissioner Espinosa requested that Section IV., Paragraph 6 be revised to state that any Commissioner can ask a person with material information to an advisory request to address the Commission. Commissioner Espinosa requested that the new Section VII. be revised to mirror the language in the Ordinance. Commissioner Dighe moved to adopt the revised Rules of Procedure, as amended, as the Commission's Rules of Procedure. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jenkins and passed unanimously (5-0).

VII. Financial Disclosure Forms

The Commission directed staff to send an electronic reminder notice and blank financial disclosure forms to all filers.

VIII. Old/New Business

- Staff provided the Commission with an update on the online training.
- The Commission's next meetings are scheduled for: March 21, 2018 at 6:30pm, April 18, 2018 at 6:30pm, and May 23, 2018 at 6:30pm.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dighe, seconded by Commissioner Thirolf, and passed unanimously (5-0).