

CITY OF OAKLAND
PUBLIC ETHICS COMMISSION
One Frank Ogawa Plaza (City Hall)
Commission Meeting
Monday, January 7, 2013
Sgt. Mark Dunakin, Hearing Room 1
6:30 p.m.



Commissioners: Richard Unger (Chair), Lloyd Farnham (Vice-Chair), Aspen Baker, Roberta Johnson, Benjamin Kimberley, Monique Rivera

Commission Staff: Whitney Barazoto, Executive Director
City Attorney Staff: Mark Morodomi, Deputy City Attorney

MEETING MINUTES

1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

Members present: Unger, Farnham, Baker, Johnson, Kimberley and Rivera

Staff present: Whitney Barazoto and Mark Morodomi.

2. Staff and Commission Announcements.

Ms. Barazoto mentioned that three new City Council members, and two sitting members, were inaugurated earlier in the day.

Ms. Barazoto said there was a correction on the description for Item 7, which should state that the vote for the new Commissioner will be cast by open ballot rather than secret ballot.

Ms. Barazoto introduced the idea of holding a Commission retreat in the next couple of months and the Commissioners agreed. Ms. Barazoto added that she would like to schedule subcommittee meetings dealing with complaint procedures and access to public records (if the Commission chooses to establish this subcommittee) in the next two months.

Ms. Barazoto and the rest of the Commission acknowledged and thanked Chairman Richard Unger for his service to the Commission as both a Commissioner and as Chairman.

3. Open Forum.

There were no speakers.

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CONSENT ITEMS

- 4. Approval of Commission Draft Minutes.**
- 5. Proposed Meeting Schedule for 2013.**

Commissioner Kimberley asked for a correction to the December 3, 2012 Meeting Minutes to make clear that he abstained from voting on Item 6a.

The Commission approved 5-0 the December 3, 2012, Meeting Minutes and the Meeting Schedule for 2013, with Commissioner Rivera abstaining.

ACTION ITEMS

- 6. Elections of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission.**

Commissioner Johnson moved and Commissioner Baker seconded to elect Commissioner Farnham as Chair of the Commission. Commissioners Unger, Baker, Johnson, Kimberley and Rivera voted aye and Commissioner Farnham abstained. The motion passed 5-0.

Commissioner Rivera moved and Commissioner Unger seconded to elect Commissioner Baker as Vice-Chair of the Commission. Commissioners Unger, Farnham, Johnson, Kimberley and Rivera voted aye and Commissioner Baker abstained. The motion passed 5-0.

- 7. Review and Selection of One New Commission Member.**

The Commission skipped this item to return to it after the access to public records presentation.

- 8. Access to Public Records.**

Ms. Barazoto referred to the staff memorandum and outlined the scope of a potential project that staff prepared in response to a request by Commissioner Baker at the December 2012 Commission meeting. The project would entail the creation of a subcommittee to explore how the City can enhance the public's accessibility of City information. Karen Boyd, Communications Director for the City Administrator's Office, provided an overview of the current public information process of the City Administrator's office. The Commission decided to create a Subcommittee on Access to Public Records and selected two Commissioners to be on the subcommittee, with the third member to be appointed at the following meeting.

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There was one speaker: Barbara Newcombe.

7. Review and Selection of One New Commission Member.

Pursuant to the Commission's authority to appoint a new commissioner to the vacant position for the 2013-16 term, the Commission reviewed the qualifications of three candidates who were selected by the ad-hoc subcommittee that reviewed all applicants. D'nette Savannah, Eddie Tejada, and Jenna Whitman each took a few minutes to present their qualifications and receive questions from the Commission.

The Commission conducted two rounds of open ballot voting that both resulted in a 3-3 tie vote. Then, the Commission openly discussed Commissioner candidates, conducted a third vote, and decided 4-2 to appoint Ms. Whitman to the Commission. Commissioners Farnham, Johnson, Kimberley, and Unger voted aye.

9. Complaint/Enforcement Program.

The Commission took the complaint log under advisement.

10. Limited Public Financing Act Program Analysis.

Ms. Barazoto referred to the memorandum in the agenda packet and said she had nothing to add to the staff report. She answered questions about the program from the Commissioners.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.