

CITY OF OAKLAND
PUBLIC ETHICS COMMISSION
One Frank Ogawa Plaza (City Hall)
Commission Meeting
Tuesday, December 3, 2013
Hearing Room 2
6:30 p.m.



Commissioners: Lloyd Farnham (Chair), Aspen Baker (Vice-Chair), Roberta Johnson, Benjamin Kimberley, Monique Rivera, Eddie Tejada, Jenna Whitman

Commission Staff: Whitney Barazoto, Executive Director
City Attorney Staff: Alix Rosenthal, Legal Counsel

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Commissioners Farnham, Baker, Johnson, Kimberley, Tejada, and Whitman.

Staff present: Whitney Barazoto and Lauren Angius.

2. Staff and Commission Announcements.

There were none.

3. Open Forum.

There was one speaker: John Klein.

CONSENT ITEMS

4. Approval of Commission Draft Minutes.

The Commission approved 6-0 the October 3, 2013, Regular Meeting Minutes.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Records Management Policy.

LaTonda Simmons, City Clerk, and Deidre Scott, Records Manager in the City Clerk's Office, presented the Records Management program proposal to the Commission for review. The Commissioners asked questions and discussed the program elements with Ms. Simmons and Ms. Scott.

There were three speakers: Katherine Gavzy, Barbara Newcombe, and John Klein.

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6. General Complaint Procedures.

Chairman Farnham presented a revised draft of the Commission’s Complaint Procedures and explained the development process of the Complaint Procedures subcommittee in creating the revised procedures.

The Commission discussed and approved 4-2 the revised General Complaint Procedures, with minor amendment. Commissioners Johnson and Tejada voted no, having expressed their approval of the procedures as submitted, without the minor amendment.

There was one speaker: John Klein.

7. Creation of an Oakland Ethics Ordinance.

Commission staff announced that the Commission’s legal counsel, Alix Rosenthal, is drafting a comprehensive local ethics ordinance pursuant to the Commission’s desire for such an ordinance outlining ethics laws applicable to Oakland officials and staff and granting the Commission the authority to enforce the laws. Commission staff recommended the creation of an Ethics subcommittee to assist with the initial drafting of the ordinance. Chairman Farnham appointed Commissioner Kimberley and Whitman to the newly formed Ethics Subcommittee and noted that one of the new commissioners may want to join the subcommittee upon appointment in January.

8. Subcommittee Reports.

Vice-Chair Baker, who chairs the Access to Public Records Subcommittee, announced that the subcommittee would be releasing its Transparency Report for discussion at the Commission’s January regular meeting.

Complaint Procedures Subcommittee Chair Farnham announced that, because the amended General Complaint Procedures were approved by the Commission, the ad-hoc Complaint Procedures Subcommittee is now terminated.

Vice-Chair Baker, who leads the Recruitment Subcommittee, announced that Commissioner interviews went very well and that the subcommittee has invited several qualified candidates to present to the full Commission at its regular meeting in January.

9. Complaint/Enforcement Program.

The Commission took the complaint log under advisement.

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.