

Ethics Commission Minutes

February 25, 2008

Members Present: Walker Beeson, Mary Ann Bramble, Danny Hill, Pam O'Brien, Sue Off, Carolyn Smith, Julian Toporek

Ex-Officos Present: Janice Elliott; Recording Clerk

Members Absent:

Visitors:

Carolyn Smith called the meeting to order. Roll was called.

Carolyn asked Marianne and Sue to act as regular appointed members for the meeting.

Pam O'Brien made a motion to approve the December 4th Minutes. Sue Off seconded. Minutes were approved.

Carolyn discussed that the previous attorney for the Ethics Commission for the State of Georgia considered it highly improper for a relative of a council person to serve on the Ethics Commission so therefore Randi Bryan has resigned effective immediately and Carolyn's resignation will go into effect after the meeting. Michael Sullivan has resigned. There are three permanent positions to be filled and one alternate. It was discussed that this needs to come to the attention of the council and these vacancies need to be advertised. Marianne Bramble expressed her desire to become a permanent member. Carolyn stated that if Marianne would like to serve in that capacity she should make those wishes known to council because it is up to council to appoint. Sue prefers to stay as an alternate.

It was agreed to have the Mayor announce at the council meeting on Thursday that there are positions on the Ethics Commission that need to be filled. It was also discussed to have it advertised on the website.

Pam discussed the memo from Bubba on the statement "under penalty of perjury" cannot apply to this type of preceding and based on the ordinance the one thing the Commission can control is the checklist that goes to the complainant.

Pam made a motion that from the October 27th letter to the complainant to strike "under penalty of perjury." Danny seconded the motion.

There was discussion. Julian stated that it should be signed under oath before a notary.

Motion denied – 3 in favor: Pam, Sue, Marianne – 3 opposed: Danny, Julian, Walker
Carolyn voted to oppose.

Julian made a motion that the language "under penalty of perjury" be replace with the language "signed and sworn to before a notary."

Motion approved – 4 in favor: Danny, Julian, Walker, and Marianne – 1 opposed: Pam O'Brien, and

1 abstention: Sue.

Pam will change the Checklist document and email it to Janice.

Election of Officers:

Sue nominated Walker as the Chair of the Ethics Commission. Julian seconded the nomination. Vote was unanimous for Walker to be Chair.

Pam nominated Danny Hill. Sue seconded. Vote was unanimous for Danny to be Vice-Chair.

Newly elected officers: Walker Beeson, Chair
Danny Hill, Vice-Chair

Carolyn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Danny seconded.

Meeting Adjourned.