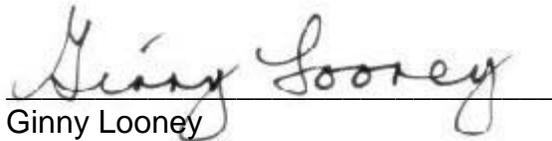


**City of Atlanta Board of Ethics Meeting
Minutes of May 18, 2006**

The regular monthly meeting of the City of Atlanta Board of Ethics was called to order by Chair John Marshall at 6:10 p.m. in City Council Committee Room 2. Attending the meeting were board members Leah Janus, John Lewis Jr., Jacquee Minor, Susan Housen, and Lawrence Levin and Ethics Officer Ginny Looney. Board member Kenyatta Mitchell was absent.

1. Mr. Lewis made a motion to adopt the minutes from the April 2006 meeting, with a second by Ms. Housen. The minutes were approved.
2. The Board next considered Ordinance 06-O-0980 which amended the Code of Ethics to permit gifts of hospitality, private meals, and tickets. Ms. Housen moved, with a second by Dr. Levin, to adopt a resolution urging the Atlanta City Council to sustain the Mayor's veto of the ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Following a presentation on conflicts of interest provisions in the Charter and Code of Ethics, Ms. Housen moved to support the three changes recommended by the Ethics Officer. The Board approved the motion unanimously. The recommendations are to mandate online filing in the City eFiling System as the written method for disclosing conflicts of interest, amend the Code of Ethics to adopt the Civil Service Code's definition of "immediate family member," and follow the Code of Ethics' rule on disclosure of all city travel paid by a non-city source, rather than a different code provision on disclosure of all city-related travel.
4. Ms. Looney gave a monthly report on the 2006 financial disclosure process and also on the Integrity Line calls.
5. The Board adopted a resolution honoring Leah Janus for her board service as the representative of the League of Women Voters since 2002.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Ginny Looney
Approved August 24, 2006



CITY OF ATLANTA

BOARD OF ETHICS
John D. Marshall, Jr., Chair
Kenyatta Mitchell, Vice-Chair
Susan Housen
Leah Janus
Lawrence S. Levin
John Lewis, Jr.
Jacquee Minor

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ETHICS OFFICE
Ginny Looney
City Ethics Officer
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RESOLUTION URGING THE ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL TO SUSTAIN THE MAYOR'S VETO OF ORDINANCE 06-O-0980

WHEREAS in 2002, the Atlanta City Council amended the City's Code of Ethics to prohibit city officials and employees from accepting gifts and things of value from persons doing business with the City or seeking official action from the City;

WHEREAS this prohibition on gifts is intended to assure citizens that city officials and employees are placing the public interests of the City above their own financial and personal interests and to ensure transparency in the dealings between city officials with those doing business or seeking to do business with the City ;

WHEREAS on May 15, 2006, the Atlanta City Council passed Ordinance 06-O-0980 ("the gift ordinance") permitting unfettered discretion to all city elected officials, appointed board members, and city employees to accept gifts of hospitality, private meals, and gifts of tickets to sporting and entertainment events;

WHEREAS the gift ordinance was passed without the advice, consent or meaningful input of the City Ethics Officer or the City Board of Ethics;

WHEREAS the gift ordinance establishes no reporting requirements and no restrictions on the source of the gifts, their frequency, or their accumulated value and creates potential conflicts of interest and may create the appearance of impropriety; and

WHEREAS Mayor Shirley Franklin today vetoed the gift ordinance, stating that the ordinance is bad public policy and moves away from her efforts to instill a culture of ethics in city government;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Ethics opposes Ordinance 06-O-0980 because it would permit city officials and city employees to accept gifts of meals and tickets from persons seeking favorable action from the City, without accountability to the public and without reasonable limitation or disclosure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Ethics of the City of Atlanta supports the Mayor's veto of Ordinance 06-O-0980 and urges the City Council to vote to sustain it.

Adopted May 18, 2006

Board of Ethics
John D. Marshall, Jr., Chair
Susan Housen
Leah Janus
Lawrence S. Levin
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Jacquee Minor



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RESOLUTION HONORING LEAH JANUS

WHEREAS Leah Janus is a person known for her personal integrity;

WHEREAS the Atlanta-Fulton County League of Women Votes selected her in 2002 as its representative to serve on the City of Atlanta Board of Ethics and she has conscientiously served two terms of office;

WHEREAS she has been a strong proponent of instilling a culture of ethics within the City through education and training of employees about the right thing to do;

WHEREAS she always articulates a common sense viewpoint in discussions on ethical questions and faithfully represents the values and concerns of the League; and

WHEREAS her sound judgment, strength of character, and faith in her fellow men and women will be sorely missed;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Ethics and the Ethics Officer thank Leah Janus for her faithful service on behalf on the City of Atlanta and its citizens.

Adopted May 18, 2006

City of Atlanta Board of Ethics

John D. Marshall, Jr., chair
Susan Housen
Lawrence S. Levin
Jacquee Minor
John Lewis, Jr.

Ginny Looney, Ethics Officer