

City of Atlanta Board of Ethics Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2007

The regular monthly meeting of the City of Atlanta Board of Ethics was called to order by Chair John Marshall at 6:09 p.m. in City Council Committee Room 2. Attending the meeting were board members MaryAnne Gaunt, Susan Housen, Lawrence Levin, John Lewis, Jacquee Minor, and Kenyatta Mitchell and staff members Ginny Looney, Claudia Janka, and Trina Nkhazi.

Honors Ceremony

1. The Board held an honors ceremony recognizing the departments making the financial disclosure honor rolls. Ms. Minor moved for the adoption of a resolution on the Roll of Merit recognizing the Departments of Aviation; Finance; Law; Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs; Planning and Community Development; Police; and Public Works and the Solicitor's office for their exemplary performance this year in complying with the City's financial disclosure filing requirements. Dr. Levin seconded the motion, which the Board adopted unanimously, and Ms. Mitchell presented a copy of the resolution to representatives from each office. Ms. Minor next moved for the adoption of a resolution on the Roll of Honor recognizing the Departments of Corrections, Human Resources, and Procurement, the Municipal Court, and the Office of Internal City Auditor for their exemplary performance this year in complying with the City's financial disclosure filing requirements. Ms. Gaunt seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously adopted it. Ms. Mitchell presented the resolution to a representative from each office.

Adoption of Minutes

2. The Board adopted the minutes of the February 15, 2007, meeting, as corrected.

Financial Disclosure

3. a. Ms. Looney presented her 2007 Financial Disclosure Report. Following a discussion on fines, Ms. Housen moved that the Ethics Office should seek the \$50.00 fine imposed against those persons who have filed since the end of the March 1 grace period. Ms. Mitchell seconded the motion, which the Board adopted.

b. The Board next considered the Roll of Delinquent Filers that lists persons who have not filed a 2007 City Financial Disclosure Statement and late filers who filed after the end of the March 1 grace period without reasonable cause. Ms. Minor moved to publish the delinquent filers roll at the Board's website, with a second by Ms. Mitchell and Mr. Lewis. The Board unanimously adopted the motion.

c. Concerning nonfiling officials, Ms. Housen made a motion to notify the appointing authority about current board members and NPU officers who have failed to file and recommend that they be removed from office for failing to file. Ms. Mitchell made a second, and the Board adopted the motion.

d. Regarding former employees who have not filed, Ms. Gaunt moved, with a second by Dr. Levin, that the Board send a letter to the Department of Human Resources Commissioner asking that a letter be placed in the personnel file of the

former employees recommending that they be considered ineligible for rehiring by the City for one year due to their failure to file.

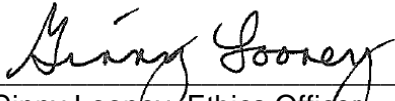
Formal Advisory Opinion on appearances

4. The Board next considered a proposed formal advisory opinion addressing whether section 2-808 prohibits a board member from appearing before city elected officials or city agencies other than the board on which the member serves. The opinion summary concludes: "City board members may appear before the City Council and represent private interests before that body. They may not appear on behalf of private interests before the board on which they serve or the department with oversight responsibility for that board." Ms. Minor made a motion to adopt Formal Advisory Opinion 2007-1, Mr. Lewis seconded the motion, and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Budget

5. Ms. Looney presented a proposed budget of \$399,991.40 for the 2007-2008 fiscal year beginning in July, with \$ 136,275.00 budgeted for operational expenses. In discussing the major initiatives, the Board reached a consensus that all updates to the Electronic Filing System should be done at one time. Mr. Lewis made a motion to adopt the proposed budget, Ms. Gaunt made a second, and the Board adopted the budget request, which will be presented to the Department of Finance.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Ginny Looney, Ethics Officer
Approved on May 17, 2007