

**City of Atlanta Board of Ethics Meeting
Minutes of February 16, 2017**

The monthly meeting of the City of Atlanta Board of Ethics was called to order by Board Chair Kate Wasch at 6:18 p.m. in Committee Room 1, 55 Trinity Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Attending the meeting were board members Brent Adams, Riah Greathouse and Jessica Stern. Staff members Jabu M. Sengova, Sherry H. Dawson, and Carlos R. Santiago also attended. Board members Todd Gray and Nichola Hines were absent.

MINUTES

1. Mr. Adams moved to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2017 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Greathouse and approved by the Board.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

2. **Report to Board on 2017 Filing Season**

Ms. Dawson reported that the 2017 filing season begins on March 1, 2017. She reported that the number of required filers for 2017 has increased to 2782 from 2549 in 2016; an increase of 233 required filers.

FORMAL ADVISORY OPINIONS

3. **Discussion of Proposed Formal Advisory Opinion 2017-1: Appearance of Impropriety.**

Ms. Sengova reviewed and discussed proposed Formal Advisory Opinion 2017-1 on Appearances of Impropriety as it relates to Section 2-802 of the Code of Ethics. She discussed how matters which raise an appearance of impropriety should be addressed by the Ethics Board and Ethics Office to provide guidance to city officials and employees. Following a brief discussion, Ms. Sengova stated that the final opinion would be presented to the Board at the March meeting.

BOARD OPERATIONS

4. **Status of board member appointments**

Ms. Sengova reported that the term for Mr. Adams will end in April 2017 and Ms. Crawford's seat remains vacant. Ms. Sengova stated that she continues to work with the respective appointing authorities in an effort to fill these seats.

5. **2017-2018 Work Plan**

Ms. Sengova presented the 2017-2018 Work Plan in the following areas: operations, training, advice, public education and outreach, investigations and enforcement actions, financial disclosure, and legislation and lobbying. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Adams made a motion to adopt the 2017-2018 Work Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Stern and unanimously approved by the Board.

OTHER ACTIONS

6. Discussion on 2017 Municipal Elections and Ethical Guidelines

Mr. Santiago reported that 2017 is an election year and the Ethics Office has been responding to numerous related inquiries. Mr. Santiago reviewed the updated Ethics Advisory on Use of City Property during Political Campaigns which outlines some of the common issues that have arisen and now includes a section on social media.

ETHICS OFFICER'S REPORT

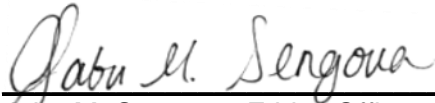
7. Status Report on Activities Performed Under the Work Plan

Ms. Sengova reported on activities that support the Ethics Office Work Plan in the following areas: operations, training, advice, public education and outreach, investigation and enforcement actions, and financial disclosure. She thanked the Ethics Board members who participated in hosting a delegation from Kazakhstan and the Mayor's Office of International Affairs.

8. FY17 Budget Report

Ms. Sengova reported that the Ethics Office was spending as budgeted for fiscal year 2017.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.



Jabu M. Sengova, Ethics Officer
Approved May 18, 2017