# City of Atlanta Board of Ethics Meeting Minutes of October 19, 2017

The monthly meeting of the City of Atlanta Board of Ethics was called to order by Board Chair Kate Wasch at 6:08 p.m. in the City Council Committee Room 1, 55 Trinity Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Attending the meeting were board members Todd Gray, Nichola Hines and Gerry Neumark. Ethics Officer Jabu M. Sengova and staff members Carlos R. Santiago, Sherry H. Dawson and Janet R. Keene also attended. Board members Riah Greathouse and Jessica Stern were absent.

#### MINUTES

1. Mr. Gray moved to approve the minutes of the September 21 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hines and unanimously approved by the Board.

### FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

2. Motion to Vacate - FD-17-027: In the Matter of Jason Redmond.

Mr. Santiago recommended that the Board vacate the Final Order in this case. Mr. Santiago stated that shortly after the enforcement hearing September 21, 2017, the Respondent appeared at the Ethics Office. The Respondent provided documentation showing that his mailing address had changed in early March 2017 and he did not receive some of the mailings until August 2017 at which point he immediately filed his 2017 Statement. Further, documentation showed the Respondent did not receive notice of the public hearing until the day after it took place. Mr. Neumark made a motion to adopt Mr. Santiago's recommendations to vacate the Final Order and Public Reprimand in this case which was seconded by Mr. Gray. The Board unanimously adopted the motion.

## **ETHICS OFFICER'S REPORT**

3. Report on Complaints and Investigations

Mr. Santiago reported on complaints received and investigations performed by the Ethics Office to date during the 2017 calendar year. As of January 1, 2017, four cases were open. Five new cases have been opened since that date, including one major case involving Disclosure of Interests in which no violation was found and has subsequently been closed. Three other non-major cases have been closed during the calendar year. Five cases remain open as of October 19, 2017.

4. 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, investigation and enforcement actions, and financial disclosure. She reported on training efforts which included a lunch and learn for 121 Employees in the Department of Human Resources during which the Ethics Office utilized the ethical lens exercise.

Because of election season, Ms. Sengova briefly discussed the upcoming municipal elections and the Office's limited jurisdiction regarding use of city property. She advised members of the public that the Board of Ethics website provides for an Election Advisory which states no candidate, official or employee

should use city email addresses or any other city property for campaign purposes.

# 5. **FY2018 Budget Report**

Ms. Sengova reported that the Ethics Office was spending as budgeted for the 2018 fiscal year.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Jabu M. Sengova, Ethics Officer Approved February 15, 2018.

2