

**Howard County Ethics Commission
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043**

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

A duly advertised public meeting of the Howard County Ethics Commission was held in the Ellicott City/Columbia Room, George Howard Building, 3430 Courthouse Drive, Ellicott City, Maryland, 21043 on February 10, 2020.

Commission Members Present: Charles Fuller, Chair
Joanne Drielak
Joseph Markwordt
Jonathan Kromm

Commission Member Absent: Jean Xu

Staff Members Present: Kristen Bowen Perry, Deputy County Solicitor, Executive Secretary to the Commission

Chairperson Fuller called the open meeting to order at approximately 6:14 p.m. The following items of business were discussed in open session:

1. Agenda: The Commission reviewed and approved the proposed Agenda upon a motion by Kromm seconded by Drielak, passed unanimously.
2. Waiver Request: Consideration for Waiver request filed by Edward Glawe to seek a waiver to enter into a lease agreement with the County for property owned by the County. After Edward Glawe and Brian Moody, of the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, were sworn in and presented testimony to the Commission, upon motion by Drielak to approve waiver, seconded by Markwordt and by unanimous vote a waiver was granted.
3. Minutes: The Commission reviewed and approved the Minutes from the Open Meeting on November 13, 2019 and upon a motion by Drielak, seconded by Markwordt, the minutes passed unanimously.
4. The Commission discussed possible amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Howard County Ethics Commission. Attorney Perry circulated a redline of the Commission's comments with respect to the Rules and discussion on the proposals will be at the next scheduled meeting.

5. Motion by Markwordt to adjourn Open Meeting and go into Closed Meeting, which was seconded by Kromm and passed unanimously. Open Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:32 p.m.

Closed Meeting: Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, minutes of this open session are required to include the following:

Date of Closed Meeting: February 20, 2020

Time of Closed Meeting: Approximately 6:32 p.m.

Place of Closed Meeting: George/Howard Building, Columbia/Ellicott City Room, 3430 Courthouse Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Purpose: To discuss, deliberate, and seek legal advice, on updates regarding Inquiry 2019-03, Advisory Opinion Inquiry, 2020-01, and approval of Closed Meeting minutes from November 13, 2019 meeting.

Authority to Close: (1) Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. Art. §3-305(b)(7): To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; (2) Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. Art. §3-305(b)(13): To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter; (3) To comply with the Commission's Rules of Procedure set forth in Rule 03.C, "the Commission may be in closed sessions to consider an advisory opinion request to the extent that consideration of the request would necessarily lead to identification of the subject of the request;" (4) Howard County Code §22.203(m)(3): "The Commission shall publish or otherwise make available to the public copies of the advisory opinions, with the identities of the subjects deleted;" and (5) §22.203(n)(9) (i) After a complaint is filed and until a final finding of a violation by the Commission, all actions regarding a complaint are confidential."

Listing of topics discussed: Advisory Opinion 2020-01: The Commission reviewed, deliberated, and sought legal advice regarding the applicability and interpretation of the Code as it applied to Advisory Opinion 2019-01.

Persons present: Attorney Perry; Members: Fuller, Drielak, Kromm, and Markwordt.

Actions taken: Deliberated, consulted with counsel, reviewed Howard County Code and Charter, and issued verbal authorization and directives to the Commission's attorney to notify the complainant with the result.

Upon motion by Drielak, and seconded by Kromm, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the Closed Meeting and re-open the Open Meeting. The open meeting was then called to order by Fuller and re-opened.

6. Commission discussed scheduling of next meeting. Upon motion by Markwordt and seconded by Kromm, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the open meeting at approximately 7:14 p.m.



Kristen Bowen Perry

Executive Secretary

Date Approved: 6/17/2020