

BOARD OF ETHICS

Open Session Minutes

April 13, 2011 - 3:06 p.m.
740 North Sedgwick, Suite 500

Board Members Present

Miguel A. Ruiz, Chair
Eileen Libby
Thomas McCarthy
Michael F. Quirk
Lisa M. Taylor

John L. Wilhelm, M.D. (Absent)
Tiffany Chappell Ingram (Absent)

Staff Present

Steven I. Berlin, Executive Director
Richard J. Superfine, Legal Counsel
Courtney L.D. Kimble, Attorney/Investigator
Edward Primer, Program Director
Pully Casillas, Staff Assistant

Visitors Present

Grad Students from UIC
Sean O'Sullivan
Zack Stock

I. Approval of Minutes

The Board VOTED 5-0 (Tiffany Chappell Ingram and John Wilhelm, M.D., absent) to approve the Open Session Minutes of the March 16, 2011 meeting, as amended.

II. Chair's Report

None.

III. Executive Director's Report

A. Education—Classes

Since the last meeting, staff has conducted 2 classes for those required to attend: on March 17, 15 attended, and on April 7, 23 attended. There are currently 29 scheduled for class on April 21, and 24 for class on May 5.

Staff is in the process of scheduling classes for the incoming aldermen, as well as for the 7 aldermen who will have their second 4-year training deadline upon them in September. They will likely be conducted in dedicated sessions, and with aldermanic staff. Once the new administration begins, staff will contact the Mayor's Office to schedule training for all employees of the Mayor's Office, who are required to attend by law.

B. Education–Mandatory Annual Ethics Education

Staff is pleased to announce that, as of April 8, the all-new 2011 mandatory on-line ethics education program for all full-time employees went live. To date, approximately 240 employees have already completed the program. Staff is in the process of collecting training plans from all departments and City Council offices, and intends to post the all-new 2011 aldermanic program by the date of the inauguration of all elected officials.

To date, 183 lobbyists have completed their mandatory annual training program—about one third of the expected total. Staff is in the process of writing the 2011-2012 mandatory lobbyist education program as well. On April 11, staff sent email reminders to all lobbyists of the June 30 deadline.

C. Statements of Financial Interests

To date, there remain 2 employees and 7 appointed officials who have yet to file their 2010 forms as required by law.

To date, approximately 9,890 employees and officials have filed their 2011 Statements of Financial Interests. We are thus at about 68% compliance. About 6,900 of them filed electronically; the rest filed in paper. Staff has been busily scanning the paper forms onto the City's new EFIS system, where they are available for public inspection (forms filed through EFIS are automatically available once complete). On April 15, as required by law, staff will send out notices reminding filers of the May 1 deadline to avoid a late filing fee, and of the May 31 deadline before being subject to a determination of having violated the law for failure to file.

D. Lobbyist Registration

There are currently **508** lobbyists that have registered with the City for this year. To date, **\$243,950.00** in lobbyist registration fees have been deposited with the Department of Revenue.

E. Illinois Freedom of Information Act

Since the last regularly scheduled Board meeting, the office has received 1 new request under the Freedom of Information Act. It was a request for information that resulted in production of no records; the requestor was directed to the place where the information was located on the City's website.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. New Business

None.

The Board VOTED 5-0 (Tiffany Chappell Ingram and John Wilhelm, M.D., absent) to adjourn into Executive Session at 4:56 p.m. to review matters concerning the conduct of employees and officials of the City that could result in their discipline or dismissal, to review questions concerning matters of professional ethics and performance, to review matters in which litigation is ongoing, and/or to review matters in which the Board finds that litigation against or affecting the Board is probable or imminent.