



MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF ETHICS

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center

2100 Ridge Ave, Room 2402

Members Present: Kelda Harris-Harty, Karena Bierman, Elizabeth Gustafson and Jennifer Billingsley

Members Absent: Vincent Thomas

Staff Present: Michelle Masoncup, Staff Attorney

Presiding Member: Kelda Harris-Harty, Committee Chair

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1. **Quorum:** Chairwoman, Harris-Harty declared that the Board had a quorum, with 4 of 5 members present and called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.
 2. **Minutes:** The board approved the minutes of November 21, 2017.
 3. **Public Comment:** No public comment on non-agenda items.
 4. **New Business:** The Board received a request for an advisory opinion by Alderman Ann Rainey. Ald. Rainey provided an overview of her request and discussed the Economic Development Committee role in reviewing applications. She stated that if the applicant meets the inflexible program guidelines, the business will be awarded the requested funds. She said that the grants are not competitive and any business can apply. She stated that Hecky Powell's participation on the Economic Development Committee has been a great asset, he provides the small business owner perspective to the committee.

The Board discussed the Economic Development Division City staff review prior to the committee. The initial review involves consideration of the application, including evaluation and determination of the financial viability and business plan and this review served as an initial barrier and safeguard for applications. Lastly, the Board discussed that this committee is a recommending body to the City Council.

J. Billingsley pointed out that City Code Section 1-10-4(C)(3)(b)(11) "*Personal Interest in Legislation*" states in part "If any elected official or employee or member of his/her family shall have a personal interest in any legislation pending before City Council, such

elected official or employee...”. The Code doesn’t include committee and board members from having a personal interest in legislation.

The Board discussed that Mr. Powell must not conduct any lobbying activities for his application to members of the Economic Development Committee prior to their review and consideration.

The Board voted 4-0 to find that Hecky Powell can submit an application for funding for Hecky’s Barbeque from the Economic Development Committee.

5. **Old Business:** None.

6. **Adjournment:** Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.