

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Ethics Ad Hoc Committee
Of the City of Georgetown, Texas**

Monday, March 26, 2018

The Ethics Ad Hoc Committee met on Monday, March 26, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the Main Floor Conference Room of City Hall, 113 E. 8th Street, Georgetown, Texas.

REGULAR SESSION

- A. Call Meeting to Order – Tim Smith, Chair

Chair, Tim Smith, called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

All of the Ethics Ad Hoc Committee members were present, with the exception of Bob Glandt and Peggy Moore. Jerry Lawhon, Kelly McClennahan, Camarie Perry, Tim Smith, Paula Trietsch Chaney and Cass Wheeler were in attendance.

- B. Consideration and possible action to approve the minutes from the meeting held February 26, 2018 – Tim Smith, Chair

Chair, Tim Smith, asked the Committee if they had reviewed the minutes of the February 26, 2018 meeting and if anyone had any comments or concerns.

Motion by Wheeler, second by Lawhon to approve the minutes from the February 26 2018 meeting.

Approved: 6-0 (Glandt and Moore absent)

- C. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding recommendations to the City of Georgetown City Council on amendments to the City of Georgetown Ethics Ordinance – Tim Smith, Chair

Chair, Smith, noted that the Committee had received comments for review from Councilmember Anna Eby and Ethics Ad Hoc Committee member,

Cass Wheeler. Ms. Eby had asked the Committee to review the City of Austin ordinance regarding registration requirements for lobbyists. Each member was given a copy of the ordinance for review.

At the February 26, 2018 meeting, the Committee had asked the City Secretary to contact Councilmember Rachael Jonrowe for clarification of one of her comments that had been reviewed at the February 26, 2018 meeting. Jonrowe's written clarification was distributed to the Committee. Part of the clarification referred to the Ethics Ordinance from San Antonio, which was provided for each of the Ethics Ad Hoc Committee members, as well.

Committee Member, Wheeler, waived discussion of the comments that he had provided.

Discussion of terms of family and relationships took place. City Attorney, Charlie McNabb, provided the members with a list of descriptions from various city ordinances for consideration. The Committee spoke on terms for spouse, domestic partner and common law spouse. It was decided that the term for spouse from the Austin ordinance would be recommended, as it encompassed all three within the description. The Committee also elected to use the term describing relationships of family members from the El Paso ordinance.

Motion by Trietsch-Chaney, second by Smith, to direct the City Attorney to combine the definitions, check them for consistency, and add them to the existing language of the ordinance to be recommended to the City Council.

Approved: 6-0 (Glandt and Moore absent).

Discussion followed regarding the suggestion to review requiring lobbyists to register with the City. It was suggested that only very large cities have these type of ordinances and Georgetown does not have a need to register lobbyists. It was also determined by the Committee that such an ordinance would not be an Ethics Ad Hoc Committee responsibility and should be brought before a different work committee or the City Council. McNabb said that the Ethics Ad Hoc Committee has not been instructed to examine this by the City Council, and he would speak to Councilmember Eby to let her know that she should take the lobbyist registration suggestion to the City Council for direction.

Discussion took place regarding the San Antonio ordinance, suggested by Councilmember Jonrowe for review. Nepotism was discussed. McNabb noted that this is already addressed in the state law and the City Charter.

The Committee decided to recommend removing the language for degrees of consanguinity and use the definitions for family instead. McNabb was asked to delete employee language from the nepotism referral and provide meshing and consistency, without repetition.

Chair, Smith, suggested postponing further discussion of the Austin ordinance on lobbyist registration and the San Antonio ethics ordinance, until the members have a better opportunity to review these and be better prepared for discussion.

Motion by Smith, second by Trietsch-Chaney to postpone these discussions to the following meeting.

Approved: 6-0 (Glandt and Moore absent)

Smith suggested setting a deadline for any further input or comments for review submitted to the Ethics Ad Hoc Committee.

Motion by Trietsch-Chaney, second by Wheeler, to set a deadline of April 9, 2018 for the submission of input or suggestions for review to the Ethics Ad Hoc Committee.

Approved: 6-0 (Glandt and Moore absent)

- D. Discussion regarding future agendas and meeting dates and times – Tim Smith, Chair

The Committee discussed a date and time for the next meeting. The next meeting was set for Monday, April 23, 2018 at 6:00 PM at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trietsch-Chaney, second by Perry to adjourn the meeting.

Approved: 6-0 (Glandt and Moore absent)

Chair, Tim Smith, adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Approved by the Ethics Ad Hoc Committee

4/23/18

Date


Board Chair


Board Secretary