

**MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION**

**MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

The Commission was called to order by the Chair at 4:31 p.m. at 400 Washington Avenue, Room 118, Towson, Maryland. Those present at the meeting were:

1. Jeffrey Forman, Esquire – Chairman
2. Lee Jacobson, Esquire – Commissioner
3. G. Darrell Russell – Commissioner
4. J. Michael Lawlor – Commissioner
5. Elaine C. Katz, Esquire - Executive Director
6. Susan Dubin, Esquire – Assistant County Attorney
7. Michael E. Field, Esquire – Baltimore County Attorney / Guest

The Chair called for the approval of the open session minutes for the meeting of November 7, 2017. Commissioner Lawlor moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Jacobson seconded the motion. The open session minutes were approved with no additions or corrections.

The Chair called for the approval of the closed session minutes for the meeting of November 7, 2017. Commissioner Jacobson moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Russell seconded the motion. The closed session minutes were approved with no additions or corrections.

The Chair called for the report of the Executive Director. The Commission was advised of the status of the 2016 financial disclosure forms. Over 200 forms were sent out, and only 4 have not been turned in. Three are board members who no longer serve. The other we have been unable to locate. Commissioner Lawlor made a motion to close out the 2016 forms. Commissioner Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed

unanimously. The forms for 2017 will be sent out by the end of February or beginning of March. Forms for County Council members and candidates for County elected offices are due by February 27, 2018 and have been steadily coming into the Ethics office.

The Chair called for old business. Chairman Forman updated the Commissioners on their finding as to a complaint they considered at the last meeting. The Commission determined at that meeting that the complaint that was presented was moot, and therefore dismissed said complaint. The complainant has now filed a lawsuit against Baltimore County, and has included the Chair of the Ethics Commission as a co-respondent. A lawyer from the Baltimore County Office of Law is representing the County and County Officials, including the Chair, in this matter.

The Chair called for new business. There being five requests for advisory opinions, the Chair made a motion to go into closed session, pursuant to section 7-1-104 of the County ethics law and the State Open Meetings Act in order to discuss these requests. Commissioner Lawlor seconded the motion. The meeting went into closed session at 4:40 p.m.

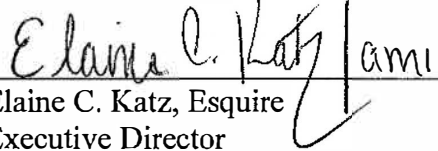
The meeting was re-opened at 5:45 p.m.

The Commission was further advised that all ethics training is to be completed by February 26, 2018. One Public Official has advised the Commission that he is unable to complete the training due to previously scheduled hearings that he needs to attend. The Commission unanimously felt that this individual could complete this requirement by reviewing the Ethics training tape when it becomes available.

There were no other Commission concerns or questions. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. instead of 4:30 p.m.

Commissioner Lawlor moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Russell seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Elaine C. Katz, Esquire  
Executive Director