

**MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION**

**MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm at 400 Washington Avenue, Room 118, Towson, Maryland. Those present at the meeting were:

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

The Chair called for the approval of the Open Minutes for November 20, 2018.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve. Commissioner Lawlor seconded the motion. The Open Session minutes were approved with no additions or corrections.

The Chair called for approval of the Closed Session Minutes for November 20, 2018.

Commissioner Lawlor moved to approve. 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 financial disclosures for 2017 have been closed out. The financial disclosure forms for 2018 will be sent out at the end of February and will be due back by the end of April, 2019.

The Chair called for Old Business. There being none, the meeting moved on to New Business.

The Chair made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to sections 7-1-104 and 7-1-105 of the Baltimore County Ethics Law, in order to discuss a newly submitted complaint. Commissioner Lawlor seconded the motion. The meeting moved into closed session at 4:40 pm.

The meeting returned to Open Session at 5:05 pm.

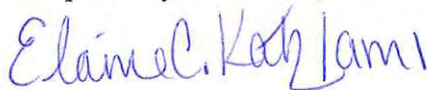
The floor was given to the Commission's guest, County Attorney Michael E. Field. The Commission was advised of the contents of 2 bills to be presented to the County Council in February. The first bill is comprised of amendments and/or changes to the current Baltimore County Ethics Laws. The proposed changes were explained to the Commission by the County Attorney. (See Attachment #1). The County Attorney also explained to the Commission the second bill. This bill supported by the County Executive, would provide for a newly independent Office of Ethics and Accountability. If passed, this office would likely come into existence in July of 2019 and would include the current Ethics Commission.

There were no further Commission concerns or questions.

The next officially scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 5, 2019.

Commissioner Russell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawlor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Elaine C. Katz, Executive Director