



***City of South Fulton
Board of Ethics Meeting***

*Monday, December 2, 2019
6:00 P.M.*

*City of South Fulton City Hall
5440 Fulton Industrial Blvd., SW
Atlanta, GA 30336*

AGENDA

Call to Order

O.V. Brantley, Chair

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Public Comment

Unfinished Business:

Board Training Update

New Business:

Action Items: Ethics Complaint #2019-02

Ethics Complaint #2019-03

Ethics Complaint #2019-04

Adjournment

**CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA
Board of Ethics Meeting
City of South Fulton City Hall
Monday, December 2, 2019, 6:00 PM**



Attendees: O.V. Brantley, Chair, Board of Ethics
Dennis Francis, Member, Board of Ethics
Kenneth Joe, Sr., Member, Board of Ethics (Arrived 6:13 PM)
Jill E. Pope, Member, Board of Ethics
Jewel Johnson, Member, Board of Ethics
Kalvin Bennett, Member, Board of Ethics
Stanley Muhammad, Member, Board of Ethics
Charles Hodges, Member, Board of Ethics

Staff: Corey Adams, Sr., Deputy City Clerk
Michael Huening, City Attorney's Office
Erwin Coleman, City Manager's Office

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Brantley at 6:00 PM.

The roll call was conducted by the Deputy City Clerk. A quorum was established.

A motion was made by Mr. Bennett and seconded by Mr. Muhammad to approve the agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote 6-0.

A motion was made by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Francis to approve the minutes from the July 1, 2019 Board of Ethics Meeting. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote 6-0.

Public Comment: There were 2 speakers during the Public Comment section of the meeting.

1) Eliese Fisher, District 4: Request that agenda, minutes and complaints are listed on website in advance of meeting.

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2) Pamela Harris, District 1: Request more detail regarding agenda topics in advance of meeting.

Unfinished Business: Board training has been confirmed for Saturday, January 25, 2019 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at City of South Fulton City Hall. Attorney Susan Moore has agreed to conduct the board training.

The City Attorney's office was tasked with gathering draft templates for internal rules and regulations for the board's operation, such as selecting a vice-chair for the board, meeting notice requirements, etc.

Chairperson Brantley recommended that complaints should be provided to the public prior to the meeting.

Ethics Complaint #2019-02 (Bright v. Willis)

A motion was made by Mr. Francis, seconded by Mr. Hodges to hear complaint 2019-02 to determine whether it meets the procedural requirements of the code. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote 7-0. The board requested that the Deputy City Clerk read the complaint for the benefit of the public.

Mr. Francis made a motion to dismiss the complaint for failure to cite the correct ordinance and sections. The motion did not obtain a second.

After further discussion, Mr. Francis reiterated his motion was regarding whether the complaint met the procedural standard, not the substance of the complaint. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to dismiss the complaint without prejudice for failing to list the subsections of the current ethics ordinance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hodges. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote 7-0.

The City Attorney's Office cautioned the board regarding providing advice or recommendations to the public regarding specific subsections of the ordinance.

Ethics Complaint #2019-03 (Davis v. Johnson)

The board requested that the Deputy City Clerk read the complaint for the benefit of the public. Mrs. Johnson was asked to recuse herself from discussion of this case and sit in the audience.

A motion was made by Mr. Hodges, seconded by Ms. Pope to bring the complaint before the board for discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote 6-0.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Bennett to dismiss the complaint without prejudice for failing to list the subsections of the current ethics ordinance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joe. During discussion, Mr. Francis questioned whether the other sections which he advised was properly before the board could be discussed. Mr. Joe

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reminded the board of the opinion expressed by legal counsel at the last meeting which stated that allegations in complaints cannot be bifurcated and must be considered as one complaint. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote 6-0.

Ethics Complaint #2019-04 (Willis v. Johnson)

The board requested that the Deputy City Clerk read the complaint for the benefit of the public. Mrs. Johnson was asked to recuse herself from discussion of this case and sit in the audience.

A motion was made by Mr. Joe to dismiss the complaint without prejudice for failing to list the specific subsections of the current ethics ordinance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Francis. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote 6-0.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Joe to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bennett. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Corey E. Adams, Sr., Deputy City Clerk