

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

OPEN MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2024

A meeting of the Baltimore County Ethics Commission was called to order at 3:41 p.m. on Tuesday, March 5, 2024. The meeting was held in person in Conference Room 118 of the Historic Courthouse and consisted of both an open session and a closed session. The initial (open) session began at 3:41 p.m. Present were:

Cynthia Leppert, Chair
Laure Ruth, Commissioner
Lisa Tancredi, Commissioner
Laura Ray, Commissioner
Kevin Murphy, Commissioner

Also present were Tracey Paliath, Executive Director of the Ethics Commission, Jeffrey Utermohle, Assistant County Attorney, counsel for the Commission. Susan Dubin, Deputy County Attorney and counsel for the Commission, participated by telephone.

Call to Order and Introductions:

Chair Leppert called the meeting to order. The meeting began with Introductions because Commissioner Murphy and Executive Director Paliath were attending their first meeting.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ruth and seconded by Commissioner Tancredi to approve the open meeting minutes for the September 5, 2023 and September 20, 2023 meetings. The motion passed.

Executive Director's Report and move into Closed Session:

Ms. Paliath described how her first two weeks as Executive Director have gone. Ms. Paliath explained that she has had several meetings with the Administration and counsel for the Commission and was doing a lot of reading. She gave an example of matters she was handling, such as responding to two employees who had changed jobs and felt they no longer needed to file financial disclosure statements. She agreed with them and told them to file exit disclosures. A motion was made by Chair Leppert to go into Closed Session to address administrative function matters, including the remainder of the Executive Director's Report. The motion was seconded. The Commissioners were polled and the motion unanimously passed. The Commission went into closed session at 3:52 pm.

Resumption of Open Session:

The open session resumed at 3:57 p.m.

Chair's Report:

Chair Leppert introduced an overview of her report.

Resumption of Closed Session:

At 4:02 p.m. a motion was made to by Commissioner Ruth to resume Closed Session to address administrative function matters, including the Chair's Report.. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tancredi..The Commissioners were polled and the motion unanimously passed. The Commission went into Closed Session at 4:03 p.m.

End of Closed Session

At 5:56 p.m. Commissioner Ruth made a motion to go back into open session; it was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and passed unanimously. The Commission went back into open session.

Adjournment

A Motion to Adjourn was made by Commissioner Ruth and seconded by Commissioner Tancredi at 5:56 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular Ethics Commission Meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracey Paliath, Executive Director