

Frederick County Ethics Commission
Minutes for the Public Meeting of Thursday, March 1, 2007

Present: G. Anthony Crook, Chairman
Andrew T. Jones, Commission Member
Karl W. Bickel, Commission Member
Linda B. Thall, Senior Assistant County Attorney

Absent: Ronald W. Peppe, Alternate Commission Member

The Frederick County Ethics Commission met at 7:00 p.m. on March 1, 2007, at the Office of the County Attorney on the 3rd floor of Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701.

MOTION: Mr. Jones made a motion to open the meeting. Mr. Bickel seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Approval of the minutes – The Commission considered the minutes from its January 30, 2007, meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted. Mr. Bickel seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Requests for an investigation – The Ethics Commission considered the additional information received since its last meeting regarding the requests made by a member of the Board of County Commissioners for an investigation into charges that the Commissioner had engaged in unethical conduct.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to have the Senior Assistant County Attorney prepare an Advisory Opinion that would reflect the steps taken to investigate the charges of unethical conduct, mention an earlier Advisory Opinion issued by the Ethics Commission, and conclude that the Commission found no evidence of a violation of the Ethics Ordinance. Mr. Bickel seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Lobby reform update – The Senior Assistant County Attorney advised the Ethics Commission that the Board of County Commissioners enacted a lobbying reform ordinance in February 2007. A copy of the new ordinance, which takes effect on July 1, 2007, will be provided to the Commission members.

Electronic filing of financial disclosure forms – The Senior Assistant County Attorney advised the Ethics Commission of the progress made on implementing a system that would

allow officials and employees to file their annual financial disclosure statements electronically. It is hoped that the system will be in place to allow for electronic filing in July 2007.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bickel seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The Ethics Commission adjourned its meeting at 7:15 p.m.

/s/
Linda B. Thall, Senior Assistant County Attorney