

CITY OF OAKLAND
PUBLIC ETHICS COMMISSION
One Frank Ogawa Plaza (City Hall)
Regular Commission Meeting
Monday, January 7, 2019
Hearing Room 1
6:30 p.m.



Commissioners: Jonathan Stein (Chair), Jodie Smith (Vice-Chair), Jill Butler, Lisa Crowfoot, James E.T. Jackson, Gail Kong, and Krisida Nishioka

Commission Staff to attend: Whitney Barazoto, Executive Director; Suzanne Doran, Lead Analyst – Civic Technology and Engagement; Jelani Killings, Education Analyst; Simon Russell – Investigator/Acting Enforcement Chief

City Attorney Staff: Trish Hynes, Deputy City Attorney

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Commissioners Stein, Smith, Butler, Crowfoot, Kong, Jackson, Nishioka.

Staff present: Whitney Barazoto, Suzanne Doran, Jelani Killings, and Simon Russell.

City Attorney Staff: Trish Hynes, Deputy City Attorney

2. Staff and Commission Announcements.

Chair Stein announced that the Fair Political Practices Commission will be holding its January meeting at Oakland City Hall in Hearing Room 1 on January 17th, 2019.

There were no public speakers.

3. Open Forum.

There was one public speaker.

CONSENT ITEMS

4. Approval of Commission Meeting Draft Minutes.

- a. December 3, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Stein moved to approve the minutes with a revision to Item 4 to better reflect the order of how the vote was taken.

Commissioner Crowfoot moved and Commissioner Jackson seconded to approve the minutes with the revisions.

The motion passed 7-0.

There were no public speakers.



ACTION ITEMS

5. Election of Officers (Chair and Vice-Chair) of the Commission.

Chair Stein nominated Commissioner Smith for Chair. Commissioner Smith accepted the nomination.

Chair Stein moved and Commissioner Nishioka seconded the nomination.

The motion passed 6-0, with Commissioner Smith abstaining.

Commissioner Smith nominated Commissioner Jackson for Vice-Chair. Commissioner Jackson accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Smith moved and Commissioner Butler seconded the nomination.

The motion passed 6-0, with Commissioner Jackson abstaining.

There were no public speakers.

6. New Commissioner Selection.

Executive Director Whitney Barazoto explained the process for the Commission's final selection of the next PEC-appointed commissioner. Each of the six finalists was asked to prepare up to four minutes of remarks describing their interest and relevant experience for becoming a commissioner.

Mark P. Cohen, Daniel Ettlinger, Kimball Lane, Nayeli Maxson, Michelle McGill, and David Roe each were given four minutes to introduce themselves to the Commission, followed by questions from Commissioners.

Commissioner Stein shared that his term is ending January 21st 2019 and that the City Auditor will need to appoint a new commissioner.

Commissioners voted by ballot to select one new member, and applicant Nayeli Maxson received the most votes.

Chair Stein moved and Commissioner Nishioka seconded to appoint Nayeli Maxson as the next PEC-appointed Commissioner.

The motion passed 7-0.

There was one public speaker.

7. Campaign Finance Compliance for the November 2018 Election – Reconsideration of Warning Letters Issued to Certain Contributors.



Acting Enforcement Chief Simon Russell presented a report to recommend that the Commission rescind four warning letters and instead close each matter without action.

Commissioners asked follow-up questions.

Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner Crowfoot seconded that the two warning letters for Scott Clifford and Mark Tran be rescinded and that the two warning letters to Katrin Wehrheim and Cassia Stepak be rescinded and replaced with advisory letters.

The motion passed 7-0

There were no public speakers.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Subcommittee Reports.

a) Campaign Finance Subcommittee – Jonathan Stein (Chair), Lisa Crowfoot, and James Jackson

Commissioner Stein shared that several organizations have expressed interest in working with the Commission.

b) Education and Outreach Subcommittee – Krisida Nishioka (Chair), James Jackson, and Gail Kong

Commissioner Nishioka thanked Jelani Killings for his work on education and outreach.

c) Complaint Procedures Subcommittee (*ad hoc*, created 3/26/18) – Krisida Nishioka and Jodie Smith

Commissioner Smith shared that the review has been completed and waiting for the new Enforcement Chief to bring it in front of the Commission.

d) Ticket Policy Guidance Subcommittee (*ad hoc*, created 9/11/18) – James Jackson and Gail Kong

Ms. Barazoto shared that the policy will be brought to the City Council for review.

e) Commissioner Recruitment Subcommittee (*ad hoc*, created 11/5/18) – Jonathan Stein, Lisa Crowfoot, and Krisida Nishioka

Chair Stein closed the subcommittee.

There were no public speakers.



INFORMATION ITEMS

9. Disclosure Program.

Suzanne Doran, Lead Analyst, presented the report.

There were two public speakers.

10. Education and Engagement Program.

Jelani Killings, Education Analyst, presented the report.

There were no public speakers.

11. Enforcement Program.

Mr. Russell presented the report.

There were no public speakers.

12. Executive Director's Report.

Ms. Barazoto presented the report.

There were no public speakers.

13. Commissioner Farewell.

The Commission and staff bid farewell to Commissioners Nishioka and Stein and thanked them for their service.

There were no public speakers.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.