

MINUTES

Muncie Ethics Advisory Committee
Thursday, June 20, 2024
7:30pm
Kennedy Library
1700 W. McGalliard Road
Muncie, IN

Roll Call

Members present: Concepcion, Gibson, McCauliff, Taylor, Whitaker
Members absent: Black, Craig, Edgell, Shipman

Approval of minutes of May meeting

The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Input

No one present wished to provide feedback about the draft ethics standards.

New business

- Review of draft language regarding annual reporting.
 - The committee reviewed draft language regarding an annual report to be provided by the Ethics Commission.

Old business

- Review of schedule through September.
 - The committee reviewed plans for completing its work by the September meeting
 - After current (June) meeting, distribute draft language regarding commission structure and responsibilities. Request feedback by July meeting.
 - July 18:
 - Discuss revisions to draft standards of March 19
 - Review and discuss feedback on commission structure and responsibilities
 - August 15:
 - Review draft ordinance; provide instructions to Dan Gibson re: revision
 - Review draft report; provide instructions to Chip Taylor re: revision

- September 19:
 - Vote on final report, including ordinance
 - Transmit report to City Council
- Review of draft language regarding monitoring and enforcement.
 - Dan Gibson led the discussion of the draft language regarding Jurisdiction, Authority, Administration, and Enforcement.
 - Members of the public in attendance prompted discussions about:
 - Time limits for action
 - The ability to lodge complaints about behavior that doesn't come to light until some leaves office or city employment
 - Dan Gibson suggested the type of changes that might be made to address those issues and will revise the draft prior to circulating for comment.
 - A member of the public in attendance prompted discussion about the section on qualifications of members of the Ethics Commission
 - After discussion, it was the consensus of the committee that the restriction on membership by elected officials of Delaware County government should be removed.
- Review of revised draft language regarding training.
 - The committee reviewed revised draft language regarding training requirements.
 - A question from a member of the public prompted discussion about the requirement that training be repeated every two years.
 - After discussion, it was the consensus of the committee that refresher training at two-year intervals is worthwhile and not too burdensome.
- Review of revised draft language regarding City Transparency Portal.
 - The committee reviewed revised draft language regarding the City Transparency Portal
 - A member of the public pointed out that “documents received from potential suppliers in response to a request for bids, request for proposals, or invitation to quote” could be a large number of documents. After some discussion, Chip Taylor suggested that he would bring revise the language for review at the next meeting.
 - A member of the public prompted a discussion about the burden of maintaining the portal. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the committee that other than documents produced by the Ethics Commission, most of the documents already exist. It will be important for the Ethics Commission to work with the City Clerk to arrange for the creation and maintenance of the portal.

Other business

- Public engagement efforts

- Next meeting: July 18, 2024 – BACK TO ORIGINAL LOCATION – Maring-Hunt Library
- July City Council meeting – July 1

Adjournment