

**Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Regular Meeting
June 1, 2011**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission convened on June 1, 2011 in Room 4080 of the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue. Commission Chair Robert Mahon called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. Vice-Chair Bill Sherman, Commissioners Tarik Burney, Lynne Iglitzin were present, and Commissioner David Mendoza arrived at 4:30 p.m. Commissioners Rich Cohan and Amit Ranade were absent. Executive Director Wayne Barnett and staff members Anthony Adams, Kate Flack, Polly Grow, and Mardie Holden were present.

1) Public Comment

There were no participants for Public Comment.

Action Items

2) Approval of minutes of May 4, 2011 meeting

The Chair proposed amendments to sentences on pages 2 and 3 of May 4, 2011 meeting minutes. Commissioner Burney moved to adopt the minutes as amended, and Commissioner Iglitzin seconded. The Commission unanimously adopted the minutes as amended.

**4) Confirmation of Chris Thomas as part-time Commission investigator
(contingent on execution of SPS contract)**

The Executive Director introduced Chris Thomas to the Commission, and explained his reasons for selecting her as the part-time investigator to perform the work under the pending contract with the Seattle Public Schools. Vice-Chair Sherman moved to confirm the hiring of Chris Thomas as part-time Commission investigator, and Commissioner Iglitzin seconded. The Commission unanimously confirmed the hiring of Chris Thomas.

5) Resolution honoring Michele Radosevich's service as a Commissioner

Vice-Chair Sherman moved to approve the Resolution honoring former Commissioner Michele Radosevich, and Commissioner Iglitzin seconded. The Commission unanimously approved the Resolution honoring Michele Radosevich.

6) Resolution honoring Mardie Holden's service as a Commission employee

Vice-Chair Sherman moved to approve the Resolution honoring Mardie Holden's service as a Commission employee, and Commissioner Iglitzin seconded. The Commission unanimously approved the Resolution honoring Mardie Holden.

Discussion Items

7) Late filing penalty assessed against the McGinn for Mayor committee (\$100)

A late filing penalty was assessed against the McGinn for Mayor Committee for failing to timely file the C-4 showing the transfer of surplus funds from the 2009 campaign committee to the 2013 campaign committee. The Executive Director assessed a \$100 penalty.

Vice-Chair Sherman asked if a larger penalty would have been assessed if the infraction had happened closer to the mayoral election, and the Executive Director replied that the two years remaining before the election was a factor in the low fine.

8) Executive Director's report

The Executive Director updated the Commission on the status of the 2011 Financial Interest statement reporting season. Currently, approximately 98 percent of all officers and employees who are required to file have filed their forms.

The Central Budget Office asked the SEEC how it could cut between four and eight percent of its 2012 budget. The Executive Director sent documents to the Mayor's Office, detailing how our office could make those cuts, but also made the pitch that he believes our

office should be exempt from making significant cuts because the Commission has grown at a substantially lower rate than similarly situated departments.

The Executive Director told the Commission that they should be ready for a special meeting to consider any challenges to the wording of the City Attorney's explanatory statement for Referendum 1.

3) Public Hearing and possible vote on Voters' Pamphlet Administrative Rules

The Executive Director said that the purpose of these rules changes was to set earlier deadlines so that the pamphlet could be prepared in time to reach overseas voters. The staff also changed some terms to account for changes in technology. For example, the draft rules no longer require candidates to submit a statement on floppy disk.

The Executive Director alerted the Commission to one change in the rules that staff had made since circulating the draft. The new draft includes a paragraph 1.8, which provides that when a filing date falls on a National holiday, the deadline shall be 4:00 p.m. the following business day.

Commissioner Iglitzin brought up the rule barring candidates from discussing their opponents, and said she'd like to see the Commission remove that rule. After some discussion, the Chair recommended that the draft rules be held over until the July meeting, to give new commissioners an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the issue before voting on the rule. The Executive Director said that he would distribute to Commissioners the materials he'd circulated when the Commission last discussed the rule.

The June 1, 2011 Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Regular Meeting was adjourned at 4:46 P.M.