

SHARED ETHICS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2019

Pledge and

Call to Order:

President Klein called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introductions:

In attendance were Commission members Calvin Bellamy, Rev. Jamie Ward, Sarah Oudman, Julie McElmurry, Merlin Foresman, Richard Morrisroe, Tim Huizenga, Rich Weigel, Dan Klein, Dr. Steve Grandfield, Courtney Smith, Lynn Volkmann, and John Bowker. Also in attendance was SEAC advisor Karen Marben from the City of Crown Point. Courtney Smith took the minutes.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: John Bowker; Second: Dr. Rich Weigel; and the Commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the September 2019 meeting as presented.

SEAC OLD BUSINESS

Financial Report:

Redoing some of the categories of the budget to include ethics pledge, ethics survey, and ethics training as separate categories in the budget.

Membership Update:

Exec committee met and want to reach out to new elected officials for new city council or mayor and those that are new to the municipality.

Julie will get a list of from each commission member to have a mailing list of all elected officials.

Regarding prospective members, Cal went to LaPorte City Council meeting and the President invited Cal to speak at the meeting. Cal went and made a presentation. Cal tried to follow up with Mayor after and received no response. He and Dan will follow up with new Mayor Dermody.

Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission (Scott Pelath) want training and our commission is willing to do so. This is an environmental group and nature preserve created by the legislature and is an appropriate member. This is a new commission.

The communities still in need of a commissioner are Chesterton, Crown Point, Gary, Portage, St. John, and Westville.

Summit Debrief:

Flyer is prepared and shows engagement of other businesses as a sponsor.

Save the date for April 9, 2020 at Avalon.

Keynote speaker will be Violet Sistovaris, President NIPCSO.

Steve Grandfield will reach out to Dan Lowry as Emcee.

Someone should reach out to Marc Chase requesting the Times be a sponsor the Summit.

SEAC Training:

There was training in the fall and there are survey monkey results.

A 2020 Board and Commission training event in the evening with a keynote speaker and some case studies. There has not been any planning yet, but would like a fifth week of the month – September 2020 has that so that is a tentative practical time for the training.

Employee Survey Media Coverage attached to the meeting packet.

Potential Elected official training: AIM – municipal group from Indy and will email Dan regarding training in Munster in December, maybe the 3rd. They offer a course on how to stay out of jail.

Potential Curriculum

Update Project:

This could take two years but would provide multiple years out of the new materials.

This is a long-term investment, but will be very pricey and outside resourcing.

The training being used now pre-dates Jamie's tenure; this program was prepared by a child psychologist who is a professor at Cal College, Jill Miller, and Leslie Rittmeyer from Purdue NW.

We want someone in governmental ethics to help with this.

Communication

Committee Update:

Special media for Porter and Lake county – percentages were attached to the meeting packet.

LaPorte county only had 30% sign and Cal would like to look into working on this by connecting with them.

Overall 56% of candidates signed the pledge – 56% for Lake, 29% for LaPorte, 75% for Porter.

Leanne Angerman will help facilitate getting the email addresses for Lake County.

Dan and Julie met with Marc Chase from the Times before the election, and he is very interested in publishing letters monthly and we believe quarterly is enough for the SEAC.

Marc can draft editorials.

Lynn Volkmann suggests reaching out to the Times to sponsor the Summit.

Materials will be coming out after this meeting in email to have for talking points and electronic packets of marketing materials; pass out to the new elected officials.

Annual report - early January there will be a draft for review. No longer going to turn into a book, rather a staple or plastic folder and electronic copies.

SEAC NEW BUSINESS

From the
Commission:

Please reach out to Dan if you do not have a name tag.

Town council president in Cedar Lake would like additional training after a large amount of lay-offs of people.

Need to have after action review of the survey.

Work on communication with communities that are members without representation on the commission.

We need to look at copyright issues for the training so that we can film and use as tutorials online after the fact.

Joint Board of
Delegates Update:

2020 enrollment fees are unchanged.

Dues have been set at a lower rate and reduces our income by \$3,550.00.

President
Emeritus Role:

Motion to appoint Cal as President Emeritus- so moved: Steve; Second: Courtney. Motion approved unanimously.

2020 Meeting

Schedule Attached: Motion: Courtney. Second: Julie. Motion approved unanimously.

January Meeting: Date set for January 22, 2020.

Election of Officers

For January: Rich Weigel is willing and put his name in the hat.

Re-energize Trainers

Membership: See packet.

Communications: Draft email on talking points coming. Reach out to newly elected officials.

Adjournment: Motion: Michael McIntyre; Second: Rich Weigel; and President Klein adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Submitted by: _____
Courtney Smith, Vice President