

## SHARED ETHICS ADVISORY COMMISSION

### Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2022

#### Pledge and Call to Order

John Bowker the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

#### Introductions

In attendance were commission members John Bowker, Calvin Bellamy, Mike McIntyre, April Daly, Brian Lowry, Lynn Volkmann, Paula Carey, Art Russell, Courtney Smith, Michael Suggs, Karen Marben, Julie McElmurry, Janice Malinowski, Burgess Peoples, and Kathryn Kniola. Guest, Cecile Petro, was present. Flor Baum took the minutes.

#### Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mike McIntyre; Second: Brian Lowry; and the commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes as presented.

#### Financials

Julie McElmurry presented the Financial Report. The 2023 proposed budget is as follows:

- Ethics Pledge - \$1K
- Summit - \$10K
- Board & Commission Training Session - \$6K
- Website Support - \$1K
- Printing/supplies - \$2K
- NIRPC – Administrative Support - \$5K

Motion: Lynn Volkmann; Second: Mike McIntyre; and the commission voted to recommend the proposed 2023 budget to the Joint Board of Delegates.

Expenditure of \$850.14 in August went towards the final payment to Traliant for Ethics software. \$850.14 was paid to Traliant's final payment for software. The available 2022 balance is \$38,991.25. Upcoming expenditures are from the Summit (October) and the training rollout sessions. The total balance is \$109,808.60.

#### **SEAC OLD BUSINESS**

##### Membership Updates

John Bowker presented on Membership Updates. The Town of Westville has withdrawn membership from SEAC, effective December 31, 2022. Cecile Petro was introduced and will soon be designated as the Lake County commissioner, pending the Lake County Commissioners approval. There is ongoing communication with Hobart to fill the commissioner vacancy. Cal will be reaching out to Lake Station. Additional communities missing commissioners are Crown Point and St. John.

##### Summit Update

John Bowker spoke on The Summit update. Online registration for the Summit is open until October 21. The event will be held at the Avalon, October 27, 2022. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Those volunteering are asked to arrive by 7:30 a.m. The panel has been filled. Jose Padilla (VU President) will be the moderator. Additional panelists are David Cook (IN Inspector General), Mike Tolbert (Attorney), Laura Blaney (Porter County Commissioner). Scott Weber (NIRPC) has secured the polling devices and will train members on how to use the equipment.

#### Training Committee Update

Paula Carey presented on the training committee update and the Ethics Guide. Virtual sessions of Trainer the Trainer are being scheduled for identified trainers. Sessions are slated for early November. Communities that have not yet picked up their Ethics Guides are asked to reach out to Paula for further assistance. An order of 2500 guides will be ordered to be used in the trainings and the Summit.

#### Communications Committee Update

Julie McElmurry presented on Communications Committee Update. The Times will run The Summit flyer in their paper multiple times. Julie will be working with the SEAC technology representative to email Summit event information to prior Summit guests. Commissioners are asked to go out to their communities and announce the event. Julie will review SEAC marketing materials for editing purposes.

Julie and Cal Bellamy had a successful meeting with the new NWI Times editor and is committed to continuing to work with SEAC. The Times also published Cal's opinion piece on SEAC activities updates. Julie continues to work on the candidate Ethics Pledge for the 2022 General Election process. She has received lists from Porter and Lake County. Currently, Julie is verifying the email address lists against the list of who has already signed the pledge. Cal and April will reach out to La Porte for an update. Julie also reminded the Commissioners that she will send out a new draft email with talking points for use in communicating to their community leaders.

#### SEAC NEW BUSINESS

Future meetings and events were presented. The proposed 2023 SEAC meetings are as follows:

- Wednesday, January 18, 2023
- Wednesday, March 15, 2023
- Wednesday, May 17, 2023
- Wednesday, July 19, 2023
- Wednesday, September 20, 2023
- Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Approval will be made at the November meeting.

**The next meeting is slated for November 16, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.**

#### Adjournment

Motion: Mike McIntyre; Second: Lynn Volkmann; and John Bowker adjourned the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

Submitted by:

Flor Maria Baum, Administrative Assistant, NIRPC