

APPROVED MINUES.

Approved 3.26.21

**Minutes Economic Development Reform Panel
March 12, 2021 1-2:30 p.m.**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Ann Marie Tracey
Panelist in attendance: Tim Burke, Bobbi Dillon, Guy Guckenberger, Alicia Bond-Lewis, Dan Schimberg, Bernadette Watson
2. **Approval of 2.12.21 & 2.26.21 minutes**
 - a. 2.12.21 minutes/accept changes: Dan Schimberg Motioned to Approve, Bobbi Dillon Seconded the Motion. Minutes approved.
 - b. 2.26.21 minutes: Dan Schimberg Motioned to Approve, Bobbi Dillon Seconded the Motion. Motion approved.
3. **Ohio Election Law:**
 - a. **Role of [Ohio Election Commission \(OEC\)](#) and [Cincinnati Elections Commission \(CEC\)](#)** presented by OEC Executive Director Phil Richter and City of Cincinnati Chief Counsel for the General Counsel's section Christine Zimmer EDRP Panelist Tim Burke facilitated the discussion.
 - i. OES, comprised of 7 commissioners, an Executive Director/Staff Attorney and Commission Assistant, handles adjudication of Ohio's Campaign Finance laws. Complaints and referrals are received by the Commission from each of the State of Ohio's 88 County Boards of Elections, Ohio Secretary of State's Office, as well as complaints brought forward by members of the general public. [Additional info regarding role and function of the OEC is available within the Ohio Revised Code](#)
 - ii. The CEC is a five-member board of citizens appointed by the Mayor to administer and enforce [Article XIII of the City of Cincinnati Charter](#), which regulates campaign contribution limits for municipal elections. Unlike the OEC, the CEC does not have a separate office to handle election issues. Disclosures for 2013 and 2017 are available online here: [City's Searchable Data](#)
 - b. **Discussion:** What limits or restrictions to campaign finance can or cannot be imposed?
 - i. Current contribution Limits per entity
 1. State Races: \$13,000 primary period, and then additional \$13,000 primary to general election
 2. City races: \$1,100 without election period limits
 - ii. Requiring supplementary disclosure filings or limits of contribution amounts or timing based on donor category or entity e.g. developers would be constitutional. [Supreme Court: Giving contributions is a 1st amendment right](#)
 - iii. Requiring disclosures of contributions from entities seeking to do business with the City is constitutional; however, a budget consideration would be necessary for the City Law department or office to manage such filings.

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4. **Expert Review of Panel Recommendations:** Consensus by the panel for an expert review of recommendations
 - a. Chris Bryan or Expertise/Solicitor's Office to support/assist panel with Recommendations
 - b. 3rd Party Review would move up timeline for completing the recommendations. Andrew Garth said a turnaround could be accomplished efficiently

5. **Website/outreach update**
 - a. EDRP City website menu placement updated. Now the page is on the City's home page and City Council main menu.

6. **Planning and Other Business**
 - a. Compiling best practices from other Cities: Paul Nick & Ann Schooley/City Law also collecting resources and a library for said resources: a couple of weeks.
 - b. Discussion regarding Public Meeting Accommodations: Final decision on platform still undetermined. Options include:
 - i. Collect written responses or inquiries prior to the meeting
 - ii. Dedicate time at the beginning or end of a meeting for public comment whereby everyone receives a certain amount of time. If panelist have additional questions of speakers, those speakers the panel could allow additional time to respond.
 - c. Tracking Related Proposals by sitting Council Members: Guy & Tim noted that the importance of tracking proposals relating to economic development reform for consideration intro proposed library (Ann Marie tasked Guy to collect and send to Ann Schooley).
 - d. Bobbi Dillion requested a less dense one pager relating to roles of Council members/ staff engagement within the development process.
 - e. Proposed Meeting Schedule:
 - i. 3/26 Paul Nick (set)/ Ethics Discussion
 - ii. 4/9 Public Hearing
 - iii. 4/23 Constitutional Lawyer Chris Bryan
 - iv. 5/7 City Manager re: Council/Constituent Engagement
 - v. 5/21 Zoning and Land Use/ Development Discussion
 - vi. ETA on recommendations: Ideally by June

The meeting adjourned approximately 2:35 p.m.

The Next Meeting is March 26, 2021, 1-2:30 p.m.