

**Regular Meeting of the Cincinnati Elections Commission
Minutes of November 10, 2022**

CEC members present: Marcus Bethay, Constance Hill, and Terry Rath

City representatives present: Christopher Liu, Law; Teninnah Ross, Law

Old Business:

1. Approval of the July 14, 2022 meeting minutes

Mr. Rath moved for approval of the July 14, 2022 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Hill and seconded by Mr. Bethay. A vote was taken and the July 14, 2022 minutes were approved by the three votes of Mr. Rath, Ms. Hill, and Mr. Bethay.

New Business:

1. Discussion of Future and Current CEC Membership

Mr. Liu opened the discussion regarding the current state of the CEC. Both the Democratic Party and Republican Party were reached out to for nominations for the two affiliated seats available on the CEC Board. The Republican Party submitted a list of three names which included member Rath. No response was received from the Democratic Party. According to the Charter, the Mayor's office now has the task of finding a democrat who qualifies to hold the seat of CEC Board Member. The mayor's office will also have the task of nominating someone to the unaffiliated seat.

2. Discussion of CEC Chair and Vice-Chair Selection

Mr. Liu opened discussion with an update to the CEC regarding the structure of the CEC. With the departure of former CEC Chair Walsh, this opens the Chair position. Current members of the CEC can announce their intent to become CEC Chair. If only one person wants the position, a vote will be taken. If more than one person is interested, there would be a meeting of the CEC and each nominee can provide a speech to convince other CEC members. Since there are new members joining the CEC Board, the current CEC agreed an election of Chair and Vice-Chair will take place once the open positions have been filled.

3. Discussion of the City Business List Search Functionality

Mr. Liu explained that one of the new authorities of the Cincinnati Elections Commission involves the City Business List and whether elected officials have accepted campaign contributions from people when their ordinance was pending in front of Council. The CEC database has all the campaign contributions from the last cycle. There is also a new City Business database listing all the pending projects and the financially interested people behind it. The implementation of a new search feature will cross-reference the two databases to find out if there are people on the list of financially interested persons that are also making contributions to our elected officials. The new database will also be used to screen for conflicts of interest. The City of Cincinnati Law Department is tasked with the investigation and presents the evidence to the CEC. The CEC will review the case and make a decision according to CEC guidelines.

Mr. Rath asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Hill made the motion and Mr. Bethay seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:29pm