

VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

In attendance: Michael Horlick (chair), T. Carter Ross (recordkeeper), Katie Siemon, David Sip. Staff: Nate Groenendyk, Quianna Taylor. One seat is vacant. Guests: Octavia Clapp, Malik Ferguson, Scott Wilson.

1. A quorum was noted and the meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Michael Horlick.

2. Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the meeting of August 12, 2025, were approved on a voice vote.

3. Financial Disclosure Review

The commission reviewed the state financial disclosure for 2024 from Councilmember Waszczak and accepted it without comment. Clerk Groenendyk will send to Chair Horlick for his signature the state form certifying that the city was in compliance.

4. Annual Campaign Finance Reports

The commission reviewed all of the required annual campaign finance reports received by the meeting date. The reports for Michael Angeloni, Greg Barnes, J. Clemonts Jr., Gopi Dhokai, Candace Hollingsworth, Michelle Lee, Lisbeth Melendez Rivera, Kareem Redmond, Emily Strab, and Joanne Waszczak were reviewed and accepted as submitted.

The filing from Jimmy McClellan was accepted, though it was noted that there is a desire to amend the standard form to reflect interest earned on a campaign account.

Clerk Groenendyk noted that a report was still outstanding from Carrianna Suiter. Commissioner Ross noted that reports from the 2025 election cycle have not been accepted for candidate Scott Wilson and since the account has not been closed, an annual report would also be expected for Candidate Wilson. The Commission asked for letters to be sent to Suiter and Wilson asking for the reports to be submitted by close of business on September 19, 2025.

5. Finance Report Form Changes

The Commission discussed several options for reporting interest earned on campaign finance accounts. The election code does not bar the use of interest-bearing accounts and neither the Commission nor Board of Elections Supervisors provide guidance on what sort of accounts should be used.

The Commission suggested adding a question to the Campaign Account Registration form a check box to indicate if the account is interest bearing. For the Campaign Finance Reporting forms, the Commission discussed several options, including adding a box for interest earned to Schedule C; adding an additional box to the cover sheet; and adding a statement asking that earned interest be add noted in the comments box in the top section of the form. In all cases earned interest would need to be included in the sum reported in Box 2.

Commissioner Siemon offered to look at modifying the form and will circulate a draft for consideration. Clerk Groenendyk will provide her an editable version of the form. Commissioner Ross will review the meeting minutes from the last election cycle to see if there were other issues that were identified as needing attention. Commissioner Siemon noted that there might be a need for checkbox for self-funded campaigns to note on that cover sheet to indicate when a treasurer is not required.

6. New Business

Octavia Clapp, an applicant for the vacant seat on the Commission, was introduced.

7. Adjournment

Absent an unanticipated need, the next Ethics Commission meeting will be held virtually at 5 p.m. on October 14, 2025, to review outstanding annual campaign finance reports and other business that arises.

There being no further business, Chair Horlick adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m. on a voice vote.