

**LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY  
METRO ETHICS COMMISSION MINUTES  
MEETING OF February 18, 2010**

The Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Ethics Commission met on Thursday, February 18, 2010 at Memorial Auditorium, Mr. Larry Grant, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ms. Karyl Ferman  
Mr. Larry Grant, Acting Chair  
Mr. Corey Koellner  
Mr. Jonathan Ricketts

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Janet Black

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of December 17, 2009 were reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Jonathan Ricketts and seconded by Mr. Corey Kollener to approve the minutes as written

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Grant informed the Commission that he had spoken with Councilman Stuart Benson office concerning the advisory opinion that was received in June 2009 requesting permission to accept short flights in a 1929 Ford Tri-Motor aircraft provided by the Experimental Aircraft Association. Mr. Grant stated that he was informed by Mr. Benson's legislative Assistant, Angela Webster that they were rescinding the opinion for various reasons. Mr. Grant stated that he apologized to Ms. Webster because he believed that the Commission had dropped the ball on this opinion and would make all efforts in the future to respond in a more timely manner. Mr. Grant asked the Commission if they would like to make a motion that in the future the Chair of the Ethics Commission would inform any Councilmember in writing of a delay in rendering an opinion or cancellation or the need for requesting more information before rendering an opinion. Mr. Ricketts made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Koellner and the motion passed.

Mr. Grant discussed with the Commission the responses received from Councilmember Judy Green's office concerning her request for an advisory opinion about obtaining a satellite office. Mr. Ricketts stated that one of the questions that the Commission did not asked was whether or not she would be paying rent below market value and whether or not the rent would be going to a family member. He stated that if it was under market value then it could be considered as a gift. Mr. Ricketts also asked if it was possible for a Councilmember or someone from their office could attend these meetings to answer questions that might come up from discussion. Mr. Grant asked if a motion was being made as to no violation or requesting more information concerning the point Mr. Ricketts brought out. Mr. Ricketts stated that he would like to delay the opinion because of lack of full knowledge of the situation. Ms. Ferman asked if a motion could be made that a Councilmember should have representation present when the Commission is reviewing an opinion so that an opinion is not carried over from meeting to meeting. Mr. Grant stated that having a representative present might not give the Commission the answer that they are looking

for. A discussion continued on whether or not the Commission would be able to amend Section V of the Ordinance relating to advisory opinions to require a knowledgeable person to attend meetings to address the concerns of the Commission. Mr. Grant asked for a motion to table the opinion until further information is received and to continue to the next item on the agenda. Mr. Ricketts made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Koellner and the motion passed.

Mr. Grant reiterated to the Commission that the previous minutes stated it was a mute issue about advisory opinion 09-C-006 concerning an invitation to attend the Annual Presidential Gala by the Council in December 2009, and that a letter would be sent by the Chair addressing the response.

Mr. Grant informed the Commission that he spoke with Chief Richard Carlson to ask for additional information concerning his request for an opinion of leasing space to a cellular telephone provider while he served as a member on the Planning Commission. There were several points brought out in discussion that the Commission wanted to address; such as whether Chief Carlson was asking to receive a response on whether the fire station would be in violation for doing business with the cellular provider or was he just informing the Commission that this was an issue with him being on the Planning Commission. Mr. Grant asked for a motion on the advisory opinion submitted by Chief Carlson. Mr. Corey Koellner motioned that the Commission should notify the Chief that he should recuse himself from being involved with any discussion concerning his position on the Planning Commission involved with the cellular telephone provider within his jurisdiction. Mr. Ricketts second and the motion passed.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Ferman excused herself for another scheduled meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm for lack of a quorum.