



Denver Board of Ethics

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**DENVER BOARD OF ETHICS
MINUTES
MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2021**

Chair Joseph Michaels called the meeting of the Denver Board of Ethics to order at 9:01 a.m. The Board met virtually through Microsoft TEAMS and conference bridge line. Present were Board members Joseph G. Michaels, Dianne Criswell, Sylvia S. Smith, Andrew S. Armatas and Jane T. Feldman. Also in attendance was Executive Director Lori Weiser and Assistant City Attorney, Sherri Catalano.

1. Introductory remarks and review of the Agenda.
2. The Minutes of the Board's December 10, 2020 meeting were moved, seconded and approved unanimously without amendment.
3. The Board welcomed and engaged in further discussion concerning the gift reporting forms and procedures with Elle Schalow, the City Clerk Administrator for the Office of the Clerk and Recorder.
4. In Case 21-1, the Board discussed the request for advisory opinion/waiver with Captain Chris Rutan, from the County Jail Division of the Denver Sheriff's Department. The Board voted unanimously, deciding that the proposed hiring and supervisory structure proposed by Captain Rutan would not violate Section 2-59 of the Denver Code of Ethics as no immediate family members would be involved in the hiring or supervision of the successful candidate.
5. A motion was made, seconded and approved to move into executive session to screen case 20-31. This passed unanimously and at 9:22 a.m., the Board went into executive session.
6. At 9:58 a.m., a motion was seconded and unanimously approved to move from executive session back into public session following a five-minute break.
7. At 10:05 a.m. the Board reconvened with all members present.
8. In case 20-31, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to have the Executive Director continue to investigate and to request a more formal response from the subject of the complaint.

Executive Director
Lori Weiser

Board Members
Joseph G. Michaels – Chair
Dianne Criswell – Vice Chair
Andrew S. Armatas
Sylvia S. Smith
Jane T. Feldman

9. The Board entertained questions from a citizen interested in case 20-31.
10. The Board continued the discussion from December 10, 2020, concerning the review and amendment of the Board's Rules of Procedure.
11. At 11:10 a.m., a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved and the Board returned to executive session at 11:12 a.m. to reconsider case 20-31.
12. At 11:22 a.m. a motion was made, seconded and unanimously supported to return to public session.
13. The Board reconvened in public session at 11:25 a.m. The Board determined that no others are identified by name in case 20-31 and that a formal response from the subject of the complaint would encompass the concerns raised by the citizen.
14. The Board discussed potential safety concerns for the Executive Director, deciding to compile a wish-list of resources to address those concerns.
15. Board member, Dianne Criswell, suggested that there be a sub-committee of the Board to review the Board's website to clarify the Board's role and Board's processes to the public.
16. Board member, Jane T. Feldman, mentioned a recent article in the New York Times and offered to forward it to others if they were interested.
17. At 11:25 a.m. a motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

NOTE: Copies of decisions in the cases mentioned above or any other cases may be obtained by contacting the Board's Executive Director, Lori Weiser—lori.weiser@denvergov.org.

APPROVED by the Board on February 17, 2021.