# City of Atlanta Board of Ethics Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2013

The monthly meeting of the City of Atlanta Board of Ethics was called to order by Chair Caroline Johnson Tanner at 6:07 p.m. in the City Council Committee Room 2, 55 Trinity Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Attending the meeting were board members Brent Adams, De'Lonn Brown, Carol Snype Crawford, Shukura Ingram Millender, Kate Wasch and Kai Williamson. Staff members Nina R. Hickson and Jabu M. Sengova also attended; Sherry H. Dawson was absent.

#### MINUTES

 The Board approved the minutes of the March 21, 2013 on a motion by Ms. Wasch which was seconded by Ms. Crawford. The minutes of the special called April 18, 2013 meeting were approved on a motion by Ms. Wasch and a second by Mr. Adams.

#### **ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

### 2. CO-11-004. In the Matter of Kelvin Gray and James Mitchell

Ms. Sengova presented a request for a subpoena for Galon Pressley to appear at the Ethics Office to be interviewed concerning the case which involves two city employees. The Board unanimously approved the request on a motion from Ms. Millender and a second by Mr. Adams.

#### FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

#### 3. Financial Disclosure Report on enforcement efforts

Ms. Sengova delivered a status report to the Board on enforcement efforts against the 26 delinquent filers. Of the 12 late filers, two cases have been closed and 10 remain open; of 14 non-filers, one case has been closed and 13 remain open. One of the thirteen cases will be closed because the filer hasn't served on her board since 2011 and she was removed from the delinquent filers roll.

#### ETHICS OFFICER'S REPORT

## 4. Status Report on activities performed under Work Plan

Ms. Hickson reported on activities that support the 2012-2013 Work Plan in the following areas: operations, training, advice, public education and outreach, investigation and enforcement actions, financial disclosure, and legislation and lobbying.

# 5. FY13 Budget Report

Ms. Hickson reported that the Ethics Office has not received the anticipated appropriations for the increase in personnel expenses. She advised the Board that she had reached out to the Department of Human Resources and was awaiting resolution of this matter.

# 6. Discussion of proposed Formal Advisory Opinion regarding "tickets" and the New Stadium Proposal

Ms. Tanner, the Board Chair, presented two questions relevant to the discussion on tickets: 1) Is INVEST Atlanta an entity that is subject to the Code of Ethics; and 2) Does the provision related to seating in the Memorandum of Understanding violate the Code? The Board also considered how the use of tickets for economic purposes would be defined. The Board determined that it would consider all the information provided and discuss further at its summer board retreat scheduled for Saturday, June 8, 2013.

## 7. Discussion of Board Retreat

The Board Retreat was scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 8, 2013 at the law offices of Holland & Knight located at 1201 West Peachtree Street, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, Georgia. Ms. Hickson presented a proposed agenda for the retreat.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Jabu M. Sengova, Associate Ethics Officer

Approved July 18, 2013