# City of Atlanta Board of Ethics Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2016

The monthly meeting of the City of Atlanta Board of Ethics was called to order by Board Chair Kate Wasch at 6:10 p.m. in Committee Room 1, 55 Trinity Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Attending the meeting were board members Brent Adams, Carol Snype Crawford (Ms. Crawford arrived just before the meeting adjourned), Riah Greathouse, and Jessica Stern. Staff members Nina R. Hickson, Sherry H. Dawson, Carlos R. Santiago and Jabu M. Sengova also attended. Board members De'Lonn Brown and Kai Williamson were absent.

#### **MINUTES**

Ms. Stern moved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2016 board meeting
with a proposed amendment to reflect that the January 21, 2016 minutes had not
been unanimously approved by the Board as stated in the minutes. Because Ms.
Stern was absent for the January meeting she abstained from the vote. The
motion was seconded by Mr. Greathouse and approved by the Board.

# FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

## 2. Report on the 2016 Financial Disclosure Season

Ms. Dawson reported that the 2016 City Financial Disclosure Statement became available online as scheduled on March 1, 2016. The filing deadline is April 1, 2016 and the grace period ends on April 15, 2016. Ms. Dawson also reported that there are a total number of 2555 required filers for the 2016 filing season. Of those filers, 2174 are city employees and 381 are city board members.

#### ETHICS OFFICER'S REPORT

### 3. Status report on activities performed under the Work Plan

Ms. Hickson reported on activities that support the Ethics Office Work Plan in the following areas: operations, training, advice, public education and outreach, investigations and enforcement actions, and financial disclosure.

#### 4. FY16 Budget Report

Ms. Hickson presented a budget report indicating spending being in line with projected expenditures.

#### 5. FY17 Budget Letter to Mayor and FY17 Budget Update

Ms. Hickson presented the letter sent to the Mayor on behalf of the Board regarding the FY 2017 budget with the request that the Ethics Office maintain its current allocation of \$611,619 for operational expenses. Further, the Ethics Office is requesting funding for a capital project involving the development of a new Efile system for the Annual Financial Disclosure process. Additionally the Ethics Office is seeking the addition of a full-time staff position to be primarily responsible for reviewing annual financial disclosure forms and performing IT and investigative duties. The Ethics Board's budget request for FY2017 is \$1,011,619 which includes the Efile capital project and personnel expenses.

At that time, Ms. Crawford joined the meeting. Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at  $6:22\ p.m.$ 

Jabu M. Sengova, Associate Ethics Officer Approved June 1, 2016