

City of Valparaiso Ethics Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 26, 2014, 5:00-6:00pm, Valparaiso City Hall

Attending were Analisa Warring (Interim Chair), Bill Oeding (City Ethics Officer/Ex Officio), James Old (new member), Mike Porter (member), Jon Schmaltz (Advising Attorney/Ex Officio), and Tim Sutherland (Secretary).

The Commission met first in Executive Session. At 5:05 Interim Chair Analisa Warring called the meeting to order, with a quorum present. The prior meeting minutes from July 15, 2014 were approved, and well as the proposed agenda for the current meeting.

The group accepted Dorothy Bass' written resignation and formally welcomed Prof. James Old, Valparaiso University representative replacing Dorothy, to the Commission. James met with Dorothy to become familiar with the work of the Commission and to be briefed on its recent activities. Jon will investigate with the City Attorney if James' term will be considered 1st term or 2nd term since James is beginning in the middle of the calendar year and during a year when Dorothy's term was ending.

The group then discussed in detail five of seven candidates for the at large community resident position on the Commission (two of the seven were not residents of Valparaiso and therefore are not eligible for consideration). The group was impressed that the response to the public request for applicants resulted in so many detailed letters of application. During the discussion two of the applicants received the most consideration because they emphasized their experience with ethics issues and specified strong interest in ethics training and education. Analisa and Jon will attempt to set up meetings with these 2 candidates prior to the September meeting and if successful will bring forth the candidate that they feel best represents this purpose of bringing education/training expertise about ethics to the Commission.

The group viewed the current City Ethics Commission webpage and provided updated contact and term of service information for Bill to update the page before the next meeting. The group adjourned at approximately 5:55pm.

The next meeting of the Commission will be on Tuesday, September 23, at City Hall, with executive session at 5:30 (if needed), and regular session at 5:35. Minutes submitted by Tim Sutherland.