

**WEST HOLLYWOOD  
ETHICS REFORM TASK FORCE  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2019  
6:00 P.M.**

**CITY HALL COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM  
8300 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD  
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Ralston called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
  - A. Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Ralston led the Pledge of Allegiance.
  - B. Roll Call :  
  
PRESENT: Task Force Member Guardarrama, Task Force Member Kanin, and Task Force Member Ralston.  
ABSENT: None.  
ALSO Assistant City Attorney Langer and Assistant City Clerk Crowder.  
PRESENT:
- C. Approval of the Minutes of February 25, 2019. **Motion by Task Force Member Guardarrama, seconded by Task Force Member Kanin, and approved.**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
3. **Discussion Items:**
  - **Restrictions on Campaign Officials Serving as Lobbyists** – Task Force Member Guardarrama commented that he prefers the approach taken under state law --if you are a lobbyist, you cannot lobby a person who is personally obligated to you. He referenced Government Code §86205(a) which states, “No lobbyist or lobbying firm shall: (a) Do anything with the purpose of placing any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate under personal obligation to the lobbyist, the lobbying firm, or the lobbyist’s or the firm’s employer.” Otherwise, there would be at least an appearance of impropriety and special influence or advantage. The Task Force further discussed this issue and recommended that the prior recommendations that were presented to City Council regarding lobbyist regulations be recommended again. Those recommendations were that a lobbyist shall not:
    - A. Do any act with the purpose and intent of placing any official under personal obligation to the lobbyist, the lobbying firm, or to the lobbyist’s or firm’s employer or client.
    - B. Fraudulently deceive or attempt to deceive any City official with regard to any material fact pertinent to any pending or purposed municipal legislation.

- C. Cause or influence the introduction of any municipal legislation for the purpose of thereafter being employed or retained to secure its passage or defeat.
- D. Cause any communication to be sent to any City official in the name of any nonexistent person or in the name of any existing person without the consent of such person.

Further, the Task Force requested that if there is evidence that campaign consultants serving as lobbyists becomes a documented problem, then they would recommend pursuing potential code changes that was appropriately tailored to address the specific problem.

**Motion by Task Force Member Guardarrama, seconded by Task Force Member Kanin, and approved.**

- **Policies Related to Elected Officials Serving on Boards of Directors for Non-Profits**

The Task Force expressed interest in requiring that positions held by elected and appointed officials on Boards of Directors for Non-Profits be included in the Form 700 – Statement of Economic Interest. They discussed Government Code §1090 which addresses recusals of officials.

**Motion by Task Force Member Guardarrama to require Schedule C “Non-Profit Business Position” on elected and appointed officials Form 700, seconded by Task Force Member Ralston, and approved.**

**4. COMMENTS FROM STAFF**

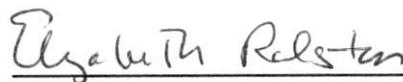
- **City Clerk’s Recommendation Regarding Term and Convening of the Ethics Reform Task Force**

Assistant City Clerk Crowder spoke to the Task Force about making them a standing body that would meet as needed. The City Clerk’s recommendation is based on the continuing requests from the City Council for them to review issues. The Task Force was open to the recommendation and City Clerk will present the recommendation to City Council.

**5. ADJOURNMENT** – The Ethics Reform Task Force adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ETHICS REFORM TASK FORCE ON THIS 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2019.

  
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MELISSA CROWDER, SECRETARY

  
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ELIZABETH RALSTON, CHAIR