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CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
SPECIAL MONTHLY MEETING
Friday, October 23, 2020

A special meeting of the City Civil Service Commission was held on Friday, October 23, 2020. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom as authorized under State Proclamation 59 JBE 2020. Amy Trepagnier, Deputy Personnel Director, called the roll. Present were Vice-Chairperson Clifton Moore Jr., Commissioner Mark Surprenant, Commissioner Brittney Richardson and Commissioner John Korn. Commissioner Moore convened the business meeting at 2:01 p.m.

Item #1 on the agenda under Executive Session was legal advice concerning procedural issues in the City Council approval of nominee to Civil Service Commission from submissions by Dillard University, including possible litigation. This advice is subject to La. Code Evid. Art. 506.

Item #2 on the agenda under Executive Session was legal advice concerning potential violation of La. R.S. 42:1141.4(K). This advice is subject to La. Code Evid. Art. 506.

Commissioner Surprenant motioned to enter Executive Session. Commissioner Richardson seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Korn motioned to return from Executive Session. Commissioner Richardson second the motion and it was approved by all Commissioners.

Commissioner Surprenant then stated this Commission was legally created to be an independent and non-political public body. We, as Commissioners, are legally and duty bound to follow the Louisiana Open Meetings Law and all rules associated with the civil service system, including the selection process for Commissioners, which is found in Civil Service Rule II, §§ 1.3-1.4 and article X, § 4 of the Louisiana Constitution. In reviewing the events leading up to the City Council's October 1, 2020 appointment of the Dillard nominee to this Commission in light of applicable Louisiana law and our own Rules, this Commission is not confident we can legally seat the person chosen by the City Council. Therefore, we must take action to ensure that what we do now

in regard to the Dillard nominee and what we do in the future as to other Commission nominees is legally proper.


Commissioner Surprenant moved to authorize the Commission's counsel to evaluate and pursue legal avenues to ensure that the constitutionally mandated process in article X, § 4 of the Louisiana Constitution and Civil Service Rule II for the selection of a new commissioner was followed. These avenues include, but are not limited to

- 1) Communicate with the Executive Counsel for the City Council to propose a joint agreement to pursue an Attorney General opinion on the legality of the process followed by the City Council or
- 2) Seek an Attorney General opinion on behalf of the Commission alone regarding the legality of the process followed by the City Council or
- 3) Research and pursue other legal avenues available to the Commission to ensure that we are confident we are not violating the law by seating the October 1, 2020 appointed Dillard nominee, given the process that was followed leading to that appointment.

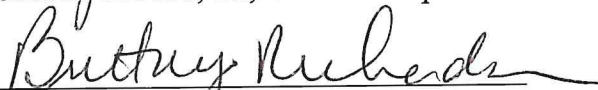
Commissioner Korn seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

No comment cards were received.

Commissioner Surprenant moved for adjournment at 3:08 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Richardson and approved unanimously.



Clifton Moore, Jr., Vice Chairperson



Brittney Richardson, Commissioner



Mark Surprenant, Commissioner



John Korn, Commissioner