

The Ethics Review Board
City of New Orleans

Tuesday, September 25, 2007
10:30 a.m.

Loyola University New Orleans, Octavia Room

Present: Rev. Kevin Wildes, Chair, Elizabeth Nalty, Secretary, Dean Winston Brown, Professor Kathryn Lorio, and Rev. Cornelius Tilton, Vice Chair, Dr. Beverly Favre

Excused: Mrs. Leah Chase

Guests: Robert A. Cerasoli, Inspector General, and Gail Howard, Executive Assistant to Rev. Kevin Wildes, S.J.

Fr. Wildes called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

Elizabeth Nalty moved to approve the minutes of the August 28 meeting, Rev. Wildes seconded – motion passed.

Rev. Wildes discussed the fact that the budget information had been submitted to the City of New Orleans for both the Ethics Review Board and the Office of the Inspector General as there was an immediate deadline to complete and submit. Rev. Wildes discussed the budget process and Robert Cerasoli discussed the budgets submitted to the City of New Orleans. Copies of the proposed budgets for both offices were distributed to the board. There was discussion regarding the various positions proposed for funding and the necessity for funding. Mr. Cerasoli discussed the ongoing conversations with the City regarding proposed amendments, independent legal counsel, funding and other matters pertinent to the Office of the Inspector General and the ERB.

There was discussion regarding the need for further information and training in the matters that will come before the board. Additional discussion centered around the need to put processes in place for budget submission, and other procedures of the office.

The board agreed that there is a need for more communication between board members to keep everyone abreast of ongoing discussions with the City of New Orleans and others matters. Rev. Wildes will send a weekly update the members of the board. The need for the board to meet more frequently was discussed.

Robert Cerasoli advised the board that he has been preparing a work plan based on the proposed budget submitted to the City of New Orleans. He stated that if the proposed budget is not fully funded, it will be necessary to revise the work plan. He will work within the budget approved by the City. Mr. Cerasoli also stated that it may be necessary for Rev. Wildes and other members of the ERB to be present at the City Council during the budget process for both the ERB and OIG budgets. The budget hearing will take

place in late October or early November. As soon as the date is available, the board will be advised.

Betsy Nalty spoke of upcoming events and requests for Robert Cerasoli to speak and an invitation by the Rotary Club to the board members to attend their October 24 luncheon.

Rev. Wildes mentioned items for the agenda for the next meeting: Where we are on the budget discussions and process, and confidentially issues facing the ERB.

Mr. Cerasoli will send information on the proposed amendments to the ordinance and the "Green Book."

Rev. Wildes moved to adjourn the meeting. Rev. Tilton seconded. Meeting adjourned 12:10 p.m.