# City of Rochester Board of Ethics – June 13, 2017

### **MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Board Chair Carl Steinbrenner.

# **Members present:**

Carl Steinbrenner
Calvin Lee
Honorable Loretta Scott
James Antonevich
Daniel Karin
Tim Weir

### **Members not present:**

Saul Maneiro

#### **Non-Members Present:**

Corporation Counsel Brian Curran

# **Reading of Agenda:**

- Chair Steinbrenner reviewed the Agenda for the meeting.
- A moment of reflection was offered by Chair Steinbrenner on the passing of former Board member Chris Lindley.
- Chair Steinbrenner introduced new board member Daniel Karin.

### **Old Business:**

Chair Steinbrenner provided an overview of the Code of Ethics Revision Project and its
current state of progress. It was agreed the project would be resumed by the
Subcommittee. Chair Steinbrenner advised that he will send an updated draft to the
Subcommittee members for review and feedback.

#### **New Business**

• The Board reviewed a letter dated June 1, 2017 from Ms. Rachel Barnhart requesting the BOE to "investigate and rule on whether Lovely Warren or any City employee violated the City's Code of Ethics in their dealings with Uber". Each board member was provided a copy of the letter, the applicable provisions of the City's Ethics Code, and related documentation for review.

The Board discussed whether or not it had authority to accept complaints from private citizens. City Charter Section 2-18 F (3) authorizes the Board of Ethics to provide opinions *upon written request by any City officer or employee or upon the initiative of the Board*. After deliberating on the City Charter language, the Board voted unanimously (6-0) to accept this matter on its own initiative. After a review of all relevant facts an advisory opinion will be issued.

It was also agreed that Secretary Weir should prepare an acknowledgement letter to Ms. Barnhart on behalf of the Board. Included in the correspondence will be confirmation the complaint was received and notification of the Board's decision to accept the complaint and issue an advisory opinion.

Chair Steinbrenner requested Legal Advisor Curran and Secretary Weir's assistance in obtaining background information regarding the Uber event and asked that it be made available to the Board members prior to the next meeting on July 11, 2017.

# Adjournment

• Chair Steinbrenner made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Board Member Scott. Motion was approved 6 - 0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Next Meeting: July 11, 2017; 6:30 p.m.

**Rochester City Hall** 

30 Church Street, Room 208A