



CITY OF BOSTON
Municipal Lobbying Compliance Commission

Minutes
Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 9:30 A.M.
Boston City Hall – Piemonte Room – 5th Floor
One City Hall Square, Boston, MA 02201

Commission Members Present: Sammy Nabulsi, Chair; Vivien Li; and City Clerk Maureen Feeney

Commission Members Not Present: Stephanie Everett and City Council President Andrea Campbell

Others Present: Assistant City Clerk Alex Geourntas, Clerk to the Commission

Call to order at 9:36 A.M.

Sammy Nabulsi, Chair of the Commission, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance and first order of business was to review and approve the minutes of the July 31, 2019 Commission Meeting.

Motion to approve the July 31, 2019 Meeting Minutes was offered by Sammy Nabulsi and seconded by Maureen Feeney. Amendment was offered by Vivien Li to amend the language on Page 2 relative to Foley Hoag Letter. This was seconded by Maureen Feeney. July 31, 2019 Meeting Minutes were approved as amended. All in favor.

Update on Draft Regulations

Sammy Nabulsi updated Commission Members about regulations being developed by the city's Law Department and the draft has not been completed as of today. Since time is of the essence relative to creation of regulations, Sammy Nabulsi suggested that the Commission itself undertake the responsibility of drafting regulations.

City Clerk Maureen Feeney expressed concerns about regulations and the city ordinance and any amendments to the legislation would impact regulations. Being an election year, any action would likely occur late this year. Right now, the regulations will be a vital tool to enforce and implement the intent of the city ordinance.

Vivien Li and Maureen Feeney agreed with Sammy Nabulsi on the matter of the Commission assuming the responsibility of drafting regulations since Sammy, Stephanie Everett, Andrea Campbell and Christine O'Donnell as attorneys would work cooperatively to establish these regulations.

Update on Requests for Information

RFI was posted on the city's website under Lobbying and several responses have been received as feedback to the city's Lobbying process. This feedback will be reviewed and suggestions incorporated as the regulations are being developed.

Procurement Process related to Lobbying

As a result of an inquiry received by Commission related to the procurement process, a Bulletin was prepared by Sammy Nabulsi as an informational response. The draft bulletin will be reviewed by Commission members to fine tune the language and to relate it to the forthcoming regulations.

It was suggested that a Bulletin section be created on the city's Lobbying web pages as guidance for the general public and for those individuals who may need to register as required by the city ordinance.

Vivien Li expressed concerns about the competitive bidding process and procurement thresholds which allow vendors who may be preferred over others when it comes to awarding contracts under the threshold guidelines.

Discussion ensued about the October 20 filing of reports, defined reporting period and availability of bulletins and regulations to be further discussed at next Commission meeting.

Motion to adjourn offered by Vivien Li and seconded by Maureen Feeney. All in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:49 AM.

Minutes approved by the Commission at its meeting of October 4, 2019.

