



## CITY OF BOSTON Municipal Lobbying Compliance Commission

### Minutes Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 1:30 PM Virtual Meeting held remotely via Google Meet Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

**Commission Members Present:** City Clerk Maureen Feeney, Sammy Nabulsi, Linda Champion, Vivien Li, and Christine O'Donnell representing City Council President Ed Flynn

**Others Present:** Assistant City Clerk Alex Geourntas

Meeting was called to order at 1:36 PM.

Commission Chair, Sammy Nabulsi, welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded to the Approval of the 12/02/21 Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve the 12/02/21 Meeting Minutes was offered by Linda Champion and seconded by City Clerk Maureen Feeney. All in favor.

#### **City Clerk Update**

City Clerk Maureen Feeney informed the Commission that the Lobbying Portal will be enhanced as it pertains to the filing of reports. All reports will be submitted electronically streamlining the process currently utilized. The improvements will hopefully take place with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter filings in April.

City Clerk Maureen Feeney also updated the Commission on amending the lobbying ordinance regarding Annual Registration. After speaking with Mayor Wu, who is in support of this change, the registration requirement for December 15 of each year will change to a rolling registration.

The city ordinance will need to be amended by the City Council and then signed by the Mayor before becoming effective. As an example, the rolling registration will allow individuals who might register in July and their registration will continue for a year instead of registering again at the end of the year on December 15 for the next calendar year as is the case now.

Commission members voiced their support and agreed on the reasoning for this change as it will allow the system to be more user-friendly and business-friendly. The change will hopefully take effect in January 2023.

City Clerk Maureen Feeney informed the Commission that the City Clerk's Office has received two Fee Waiver Requests as follows:

Charles River Watershed Association  
*This request was denied.*

Justice for Housing, Inc.  
*This request was approved.*

Commission members expressed their appreciation and gave credit to the city's IT staff that has worked so hard to ensure the Lobbying portal and its various processes continue to be in working order.

#### **Update on City Communication on Lobbying Activities**

Commission Chair, Sammy Nabulsi, updated the Commission on plans to create a framework to share with all city employees relative to Lobbying with Frequently Asked Questions. This would be an email blast to everyone on a yearly basis as the city does now with other city policies. It was suggested that a Webinar could be created that city employees can view at any time and a confirmation issued that the employee viewed the Webinar.

Sammy Nabulsi and Linda Champion indicated that they would work together to create the text and possible Webinar.

#### **Old/New Business**

City Clerk Maureen Feeney informed the Commission that she is retiring and this would be her last meeting as City Clerk.

Commissioners praised Maureen for all her great work on Lobbying and as City Clerk. Everyone wished her all the best in her retirement.

Motion to adjourn meeting was offered by Linda Champion and seconded by Vivien Li. All in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:34 PM.