

Members Present: David Deaderick, Vice Chair
George Baroniak, Member
Viola Gardner, Member
Zora Siemasko, Member
Shirley Baldwin, Executive Secretary

Absent: M. Martha Neal, Ph.D., Chair

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Deaderick at 2:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next meeting of the Ethics Commission will be March 15, 2004.

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES

Minutes of February 23, 2004 The motion was made by Mr. Baroniak to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Ms. Gardner. The motion carried.

Executive Session Minutes of February 23, 2004. The minutes of the Executive Session were distributed for review. Ms. Siemasko made the motion to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Mr. Baroniak. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

- Status 2002 Outstanding. No change in the status of 2002. Unless there is some activity on those, no further reports will be made.
- Status 2003 Outstanding. Up-to-date report not available because of the large volume reviewed at last meeting and those remaining to be reviewed today. Mr. Deaderick postponed the review session until later in today's meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- E-Mail from Walter Burch regarding Development Review Forum (DRF) The Commission continued the discussion from last week. There was no further response from Ms. Dill who indicated she would like to explore further whether the Commission has any authority to question the role of the DRF. Mr. Baroniak contacted two individuals serving on the State Ethics Commission this week and was told essentially that we need to look at our local charter to determine what our authority is. Because of the public trust placed in the Ethics Commission, Mr. Baroniak was advised if we do not have the authority, it should be passed on to the proper persons who do have the authority to handle this matter. It was proposed that Mr. Deaderick contact our County Attorney and make an offer to him that the Ethics Commission will make a presentation to the DRF and any other committees as part of its Education Program. Emphasis would be placed on making sure that the committees/boards stay within their charters and police themselves. Additional information should be forthcoming from our attorney.
- 2005 Budget. Mr. Deaderick said he was inclined to request the same amount that the Ethics Commission received last year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The motion was made by Ms. Siemasko to enter into Executive Session under 4-210(a)(8) of the St. Mary's County Open Meetings Act at 2:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Baroniak. Motion carried.

The Commission returned to regular session at 2:50 p.m.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

- Review Session

The Commission completed its review of the Financial Disclosure Statements from the previous week.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Gardner made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:35 p.m., seconded by Mr. Baroniak. Motion carried.