

ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF August 15, 2005

St. Mary's County Governmental Center, Room 14

Members Present: David S. Deaderick, Chair
George Baroniak, Vice Chair
Joseph B. Bush, Member
Arthur F. Goeller, Member
Warren Kunz, Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Deaderick at 2:00 p.m. Ms. Gardner and Ms. Wolfe were unable to attend the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Meeting. Due to the Labor Day holiday, the next meeting of the Ethics Commission will be on Monday, September 12, 2005.

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES:

Minutes of August 1, 2005. The minutes will be reviewed at the September 12 meeting.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS:

Review of Statements. One FDS statement was reviewed.

FDS Status Report. Mr. Deaderick advised members that cease and desist letters requesting outstanding FDS statements were forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners requesting their action under the Ethics Ordinance. He also advised that the Ethics Commission can also go directly to the Circuit Court for action on outstanding statements.

Question on FDS. Mr. Baroniak advised he was approached by a candidate for election to the Board of County Commissioners about the level of financial detail necessary for completion of his Financial Disclosure Statement.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Review of Rules of Procedures and Bylaws. After initial review of the Ethics Commission Rules of Procedure and Bylaws, members determined that they will revise these two documents, if necessary, after approval of the revised Ethics Ordinance by the Board of County Commissioners. It was agreed that these two documents should be reviewed automatically each time the Ethics Ordinance is revised.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Report. Mr. Deaderick will ask Ms. Wolfe to prepare the Calendar Year 2004 Annual Report of the Ethics Commission for review at the September 12 meeting. Mr. Baroniak offered to obtain a copy of the County Ordinance requiring submission of annual reports by boards and commissions.

TDR Update. Mr. Baroniak reported that he participated in the TDR (Transferable Development Rights) recent presentation by the Chamber of Commerce and others to the Board of County Commissioners. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on TDR in September. Mr. Baroniak also reported that the county TDR plan was forwarded to the Maryland Planning Commission for their information. As a result, the state forwarded copies of the St. Mary's County document to several other counties for their information. Mr. Deaderick referred to the recent *Enterprise* editorial praising the work county groups and citizens in the TDR process. Commission members agreed to prepare an article regarding the importance of citizen involvement in county matters – especially pointing to membership on county boards and commissions.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Goeller moved to adjourn at 2:45 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.