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CITY OF BOSTON Municipal Lobbying Compliance Commission

Minutes Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 2:00 PM

Commission Members Present: Sammy Nabulsi, Chair, Vivien Li, Linda Champion and City Clerk Alex Geourntas

Not Present: Christine O'Donnell representing City Council President Ed Flynn

Meeting called to order at 2:03 PM

Sammy Nabulsi, Commission Chair, opened the in-person Commission meeting and welcomed all present.

Commission members reviewed the January 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes and the following was offered:

Motion to amend 1/26/23 Meeting Minutes was offered by Sammy Nabulsi and seconded by Linda Champion. The following amendment was offered:

Delete 1st paragraph under the New Business Section and replace with the following text:

Commission Chair, Sammy Nabulsi, advised that the MA Supreme Judicial Court issued its decision in the lobbying case involving Sal DiMasi. It was suggested that the Law Department be asked to advise on the implications of the decision to the Boston Lobbying Ordinance.

All in favor.

Motion was offered by Sammy Nabulsi to amend the 1/26/23 Meeting Minutes and seconded by Vivien Li as follows: change the top of the second page, 1st Quarter Reporting to 4th Quarter Reporting

All in favor.

Motion was offered by Sammy Nabulsi to amend the 1/26/23 Meeting Minutes as follows: delete the first paragraph at the top of page 3; seconded by Linda Champion. All in favor.

Motion was offered by Linda Champion to accept the 1/26/23 Minutes as amended; seconded by Vivien Li. All in favor.

City Clerk Report

City Clerk Alex Geourntas informed the Commission that all registered Lobbyists, Entities and Clients are in full compliance. All reports due on January 20, 2023 have been submitted as required by the city ordinance.

Commission members were pleased with these results and offered praise to the hard work of the City Clerk's Office staff to reach this milestone.

Response was received as well from Back Bay Association after receiving a non-compliance letter from the City Clerk and the Back Bay Association is now in compliance.

In light of the recent court decision relative to Sal DiMasi, should there be an additional question posed about state convictions during the registration process for Lobbyists, Entities and Clients? Linda Champion noted that as a Commission, we want to make sure we are operating within the law as it pertains to this issue.

Commission members were in agreement that the city's Law Department should be consulted about this court decision, state convictions and the Open Meeting Law.

Old/New Business

City Clerk Alex Geourntas updated the Commission on the appointments by the Mayor. The letters have been submitted to the City Council and they have been referred to the Committee on Government Operations. The next step will be to hold a public hearing for these appointments.

Commissioners discussed the date and time of the next Commission meeting and it will be scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 4 PM.

Commission Chair, Sammy Nabulsi is reviewing and finalizing the text for the webinar video for external and internal audiences and working with Linda Champion on next steps.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 PM.