

**City of Troy  
Ethics Commission**

**Special Meeting, February 20, 2020**

**Minutes**

Attendance:

Present: Thomas Hotte, Peter Kehoe, Ryan Manley (Chairman), Stephen Muller.

Absent: Tiffany Morgan.

Call to Order: Chairman Manley determined that there was a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Public Comments: None.

Update on Commission Memberships:

Manley said he had been in contact with City Clerk Drogan about unfilled positions and the need to find a replacement for Morgan, who had missed three consecutive meetings.

Advisory Opinion

Manley led the continued discussion of the request for an advisory opinion from City Council Representative Sue Steele. He reported that he had talked to Steele to clarify some points. She said that the THA is working with the City on two projects, and the main THA point of contact is the THA Executive Director. She also said that as THA Chair she receives a nominal stipend of \$2,000 annually.

He pointed out that under the Code of Ethics, Section 43-1 A.2 THA would be considered Steele's employer, and therefore under Section 43-1 E she could not represent THA in any business before the City. Furthermore, under Section 43-5 A, THA, as Steele's employer, would be prohibited from appearing before the City.

After discussion there was a consensus that it would not be sufficient for Steele to simply recuse herself from any City business involving THA, and that furthermore her continuing to serve both the Council and THA would impose onerous restrictions on THA's ability to deal with the City of Troy. Manley said he would draft a letter conveying our position to Steele and circulate it to the Commission for comment/approval.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting: April 23, 2020.

Submitted by:

Stephen H. Muller  
Secretary