Regular Meeting:

Roll Call:

X Chair Ms. Tami Schademann
X Member Ms. Janey Humphries
E Member Mr. Robert Frey
X Member Ms. Dana Rank
X Member Ms. Diana Aguirre
X Ruth Benien, Administrator

X (Present)
E (Excused)
U (Unexcused)

Call to Order:

Chairperson Schademann called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. Commissioners Humphries, Rank and Aguirre were present. Commissioner Frey was absent. Administrator Benien was present.

Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Old Business:

a). Approval of Minutes:

Proposed Minutes of the February 2, 2012 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes as proposed was made by Commissioner Humphries and seconded by Commissioner Aguirre. The motion passed unanimously.
b). Monthly Administrator’s Report:

Administrator Benien provided a written copy of the February 29, 2012 monthly report which outlined the training provided in February, 2012 and the nature of the ethics opinions rendered and complaints received.

A Continuing Ethics training session was held February 14, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the Human Resources Department. Continuing Ethics training sessions are scheduled for March 13, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the Human Resources Department, April 17, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood Resource Center and June 20, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood Resource Center. A Basic Ethics training session is scheduled for June 20, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood Resource Center. The June Basic Ethics training may be rescheduled to April, 2012 due to conflicts of employees needing training at an earlier date to meet the ordinance deadline for completion of such training or another commitment of employees needing to meet the deadline for that date.

In February, 2012 one new written email complaint and one new e-mail complaint were received. One telephone or hotline call was received. Twenty four complaints are pending awaiting investigation, under investigation or determination. One complaint was closed with no violation found. One new verbal request for advisory opinion was received. One new e-mail request for advisory opinion was received. Two written advisory opinions were provided. One verbal advisory opinion was provided. Ten advisory opinions are pending. One new request for information or assistance was received. One request for information is pending.

An e-mail request was received from an undergraduate student at UMKC to shadow the work of the Ethics Administrator. Response was made and the individual invited to attend the March, April or May, 2012 UG Ethics Commission meetings. The student plans to attend the April, 2012 UG Ethics Commission meeting and visit with the UG Ethics Administrator prior to the meeting.

The Administrator’s report was accepted as amended or corrected for February, 2012.

c). Discussion of Status of Proposed Revisions and Amendments to Ethics Code:

Administrator Benien advised that a copy of the UG Ethics Commission proposed amendments to the UG Ethics Code with final changes and corrections was sent to the UG Mayor’s Office on February 3, 2012. The matter was not placed on the March 13, 2012 Standing Committee Agenda. The matters should be placed on an Agenda of either the Standing Committee or the UG Commission in March, 2012. No proposed amendments have been received from the UG legal department or any other individual or group.

The Office of the Ethics Administrator provided a written advisory opinion with respect to whether the UG Ethics Commission could be bypassed with respect to any proposals to
amend or change the UG Ethics Code. The opinion provided was that the UG Ethics Commission and/or the Office of the UG Ethics Administrator needed to be provided with the ability to review and comment on any proposed changes or amendments prior to any vote with respect to the same.

New Business:

Administrator Benien again asked all the new Ethics Commissioners to provide a photograph and a biography for the UG Ethics website. All information provided will be posted on the UG Ethics Website. All Ethics Commissioners are asked to review the same and advise of any changes or corrections necessary.

An updated copy of the UG Ethics Commissioner Information sheet has been prepared and will be distributed.

Executive Session:

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment:

Motion for adjournment by Commissioner Rank.

Seconded by Commissioner Humphries.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Next Meeting is April 5, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Ruth M. Benien

Ruth M. Benien
UG Ethics Administrator