

Meeting Minutes for the Citizens' Commission on Elected Officials Compensation
March 25, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.
Columbus City Hall, Conference Room 225

Attendance:

- Chester C. Christie, Commission Chair
- Kristen Easterday, Commissioner
- Dawn Tyler Lee, Commissioner
- Marchelle E. Moore, Esq., Commissioner
- William Murdock, Commissioner
- Andrea Blevins, Columbus City Clerk
- Josh Cox, Chief Counsel, Columbus City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr.
- Ken Paul, Chief of Staff to Council President Andrew J. Ginther
- Rory McGuinness, Special Assistant to Mayor Michael B. Coleman
- Nichole Brandon, Director, Columbus Department of Human Resources
- Jacquilla Bass, Deputy Director, Columbus Department of Human Resources
- Greg Beaverson, Compensation Manager, Columbus Department of Human Resources
- Amy DeLong, Director, Columbus Civil Service Commission

Mr. Christie called the meeting to order and asked the Commission members and staff members to introduce themselves. Mr. Christie thanked staff for their work.

Mr. Cox commented on the guidelines and parameters in regard to email communication as it relates to Open Meetings law for public bodies.

Ms. Moore made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tyler Lee, for adoption of the Minutes for the March 12th meeting.

- Yeas – 5
- Nays – 0
- Motion carried

Mr. McGuinness reported on the final list of benchmark cities, right to work states, and elected officials' salaries. Ms. Tyler Lee stated that the Columbus 2020 list would be a good starting point with the exception of New York City, Dallas, and Chicago. Mr. Murdock agreed with Ms. Tyler Lee. Ms. Moore stated that it would be a good idea to begin with the peer cities list because the city already utilizes it for benchmarking representative and administrative salaries. Mr. Paul added that when analyzing characteristics like population and government structure, the core peer cities list might not be the best list to utilize. Mr. Christie stated he would be comfortable using the peer cities list and adding or removing other cities if needed.

Mr. Christie asked how realistic it was to receive responses from all of the cities on the list in the timeframe allotted. Mr. Beaverson responded that the survey is likely to have a high response rate.

Ms. Moore made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tyler Lee, for the list of cities being utilized to include peer cities with the exception of Boston, Dallas, San Diego and San Francisco but also including the cities of Lexington, Minneapolis, and Raleigh.

- Yeas – 5
- Nays – 0
- Motion carried

Mr. Beaverson reported on the survey questions being sent to other cities. Mr. Christie asked if the survey had been sent. Mr. Beaverson confirmed that it had been sent Tuesday morning.

Mr. Paul proposed that a future topic discussion and presentation should be the consumer price index because it would help in deciding not only the base salary for this year but for the succeeding years. Mr. Paul asked if there were any other topics the Commission would like to cover in future meetings. Mr. Christie responded that if Commission members think of topics, they would forward them to staff.

Mr. Paul gave an overview of the website for the Citizens' Commission on Elected Official Compensation. Ms. Tyler Lee asked if there was a mechanism to contact the Commission for those who do not have computer access. Mr. Paul responded that the mailing address and phone number to contact the Commission will be added to the contact portion of the website.

Mr. Christie announced that the next meeting would be April 8th at 4:00 p.m. and adjourned the meeting.