



SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE
Education, Outreach and Training Committee
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
MINUTES

Hearing Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

July 14, 2014 – 3:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Members: David Pilpel (Chair), Todd David,
Bruce Oka, Chris Hyland

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND AGENDA CHANGES

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. All members were noted present. There was a quorum.

- 2. File No. 13082: Hearing on the status of the Order of Determination - Gonzalo Javier Ferrer against City Attorney Dennis Herrera and Deputy City Attorney Paula Jesson, City Attorney's Office, for violating Sunshine Ordinance Sections 67.21(d) for failure to respond in a timely manner to a request for determination of the status of certain records being public documents or not. (01:01:00 – 01:16:00)**

Gonzalo Javier Ferrer (Complainant) provided an overview of the status of the Order of Determination. Gabriel Zitrin, City Attorney's Office (Respondent), provided an overview of the City Attorney's Office's position on compliance with the Order of Determination. A question and answer period followed. The Respondent provided a rebuttal. The Complainant provided a rebuttal.

Public Comment:
None.

There being no motion the matter was concluded.

3. **File No. 14019: Hearing on the status of the Order of Determination** - William Clark against Dennis Herrera, Jack Song and Gabriel Zitrin, City Attorney's Office, for violating Sunshine Ordinance Section 67.29.7 for failure to maintain appropriate records in a businesslike manner. (00:00:30 – 01:01:00)

William Clark (Complainant) provided an overview of the status of the Order of Determination. Gabriel Zitrin, City Attorney's Office (Respondent), provided an overview of the City Attorney's Office position on compliance with the Order of Determination. A question and answer period followed. The Respondent provided a rebuttal. The Complainant provided a rebuttal.

Member David, seconded by Member Hyland, moved to refer the complaint to the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force and requested that the City Attorney's Office add additional billing details to the tracking spreadsheets.

Public Comment:

Robert Clark stated that the City Attorney's Office is willfully refusing to disclose public information.

Thomas Picarello stated that that Education, Outreach and Training Committee should not wait for various court decisions and should enforce the Order of Determination.

Michael Petrelis stated that there are records that need to be disclosed.

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

Ayes: 4 – David, Hyland, Oka, Pilpel

Noes: 0 – None

4. **File No. 14065: Civil Grand Jury Report - Ethics in the City: Promise, Practice or Pretense.** (01:16:00 – 02:07:00)

Robert van Ravenswaay, Larry Bush, and Elena Schmid (Foreperson), Civil Grand Jury, provided a summary and answered questions regarding the Civil Grand Jury Report.

Member Oka, seconded by Member David, moved to refer the matter to the Compliance and Amendments Committee and the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force without recommendation.

Public Comment:

Michael Petrelis commented on the Whistle Blower program as it applies to the public, the Ethics Commission listings of a donors list on their website, posting of calendars on the website, and broadcasting the SOTF meeting on SFGTV.

Thomas Picarello concurs with the findings of the Civil Grand Jury Report.

The motion PASSED without objection.

Chair Pilpel will revise his recommendation regarding the Civil Grand Jury Report, draft a letter to departments concerning calendar requirements, and schedule discussion regarding the Civil Grand Jury Report concerning department websites.

5. **Education, Outreach and Training Committee – Member Initiatives and Work Plan.** (02:07:00 – 02:25:00)

Chair Pilpel provided a work plan for the committee. Discussion occurred.

Public Comment:

Allyson Washburn, Member of the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (SOTF), commented on various issues.

Michael Petrelis commented on the extreme length of the meetings and large backlog. He stated that there is a lack of timekeeping during the meetings and that non-profits should be posting their agendas online.

Thomas Picarello commented on a complaint against members of the Board of Supervisors Budget and Finance Committee regarding public comment. He stated that the Task Force should not depend on the City Attorney's advice when their office is listed as a respondent.

No Action Taken.

6. **Public Comment:**

Michael Petrelis stated that the meetings should be broadcast on television and that a resolution is needed to advance the proposal.

Thomas Picarello stated that the meetings should be broadcast on television and further stated that a lawyer is needed at committee meetings.

7. **Announcements, Comments, Questions, and Future Agenda Items.**

Public Comment:

None.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned 5:35 p.m.

APPROVED: November 10, 2014



**Victor Young
Administrator
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force**

N.B. The Minutes of this meeting set forth all actions taken by the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force on the matters stated, but not necessarily in the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.