SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE



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ORDER OF DETERMINATION September 15, 2016

DATE ISSUED August 3, 2016

CASE TITLE – Geoffrea Morris v. Executive Director Toye Moses, Renee Willette, and the Southeast Community Facility Commission (File No. 16040)

FACTS OF THE CASE

On April 25, 2016, Geoffrea Morris (Complainant) filed the following complaint:

File No. 16040: Complaint filed by Geoffrea Morris against Executive Director Toye Moses, Renee Willette, and the Southeast Community Facility Commission for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Sections 67.7, 67.8, and 67.15, by failing to provide an agenda description that is meaningful and sufficiently clear to alert a person of average intelligence and education whose interests are affected by the item; failing to include information regarding the Sunshine Ordinance in the meeting agenda; failing to properly notice a Closed Session; and failing to provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the body (April 20, 2016, meeting).

HEARING ON THE COMPLAINT

On August 3, 2016, the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (Task Force) heard the matter.

Ms. Morris provided an overview of the complaint and requested the Task Force to find violations. In addition to the listed complaints Ms. Morris alleged that members of the public were present during closed session discussions. There were no speakers in support of the Complainant. Renee Willette (Respondent), provided a summary of the department's position and stated that Executive Director Toye Moses has retired and is no longer with the Commission. Ms. Willette acknowledged that the Sunshine information required by Administrative Code, Sections 67.7 (g) and (h), did not appear on the agenda and the issue has been addressed for all future agendas. Ms. Willette stated that only members of the Commission, staff and relevant applicants were present during the closed session portion of the meeting. There were no speakers in support of the Respondent. A question and answer period followed. The issue of bodies subject to Charter, Section 4.101.5 and the 60 day limit for holdover appointee was discussed. However, it was determined that Charter, Section 4.101.5 does not apply to the Southeast Community Facility Commission. The Respondent and Complainant were provided the opportunity for rebuttals.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the testimony and evidence presented, the Task Force finds that a violation of Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.7 (g) and (h), occurred.

DECISION AND ORDER OF DETERMINATION

The Sunshine Ordinance Task Force finds that find that former Executive Director Toye Moses, Renee Willette, and the Southeast Community Facility Commission violated Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Sections 67.7 (g) and (h), by failing to include required information regarding the Sunshine Ordinance in their April 20, 2016, agenda.

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Eldon, J. Wolf, Tesfai, Maass, Cannata, Fischer, Hinze, B. Wolfe

Noes: 0 - None Absent: 1 - Chopra Excused 1 - Hyland

Bruce Wolfe, Chair WW Sunshine Ordinance Task Force

c. Nicholas Colla, Deputy City Attorney Geoffrea Morris, Complainant Renee Willette, SFPUC, Respondent