

City of Valparaiso Ethics Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 6, 2014, 6:30-7:45pm, Valparaiso City Hall

Attending were Dorothy Bass (Chair), Julie Harvey (member), Bill Oeding (City Ethics Officer/Ex Officio), Mike Porter (member), Tim Sutherland (Secretary), and Analisa Warring (member). Jon Schmaltz (Advising Attorney/Ex Officio) was unable to attend,

The group first met in Executive session.

At 6:30, chair Dorothy Bass called the regular open meeting to order, with a quorum present. The meeting's agenda and minutes (from the February 11 meeting) were both approved.

Members agreed that Dorothy's presentation (with PowerPoint slides and Commission brochure) to the City's Leadership Team went well and was well received. The Commission's role to educate and raise awareness about ethics is the overarching goal. The BZA (Board of Zoning Appeals) and the City's Redevelopment Commission were discussed as possible groups to next approach for a similar presentation. Introducing scenarios of real world ethical dilemmas problems in presentations was discussed, examples from the ICMA (International City/County Management Association) may be useful, and Julie will research some future "hypotheticals" for the next meeting.

Tim and Bill indicated they will be attending the Northwest Indiana Shared Ethics Advisory Commission annual breakfast meeting March 13 in Merrillville. Keynote speaker will be former U.S. Congressman Lee Hamilton.

The next meeting of the commission will be on Tues., April 8, at City Hall, with executive session at 6:00 and regular session at 6:05.

Minutes submitted by Tim Sutherland.