

Notice
Fair Political Practices Commission
Public Outreach and Technology Committee Meeting¹
March 11, 2020 10:00 a.m.

The Public Outreach and Technology Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

- 1. Public Comment for items not on the agenda.**
- 2. Approval of December 10, 2020 minutes.**

MOTION: To approve December 10, 2020 minutes. Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Chair Miadich. The motion was approved 2-0.

- 3. Discussion of Commission Website and Possible Changes to the Layout.**

Loressa Hon, Chief of Administration, stated IT has recently completed an update on the website to enable a mobile compatible version. The Table of Contents were shifted to present the page content first then the table of contents for a more user-friendly experience. Chair Miadich asked Ms. Hon if there was any content that had to be removed that is no longer accessible to the public. Ms. Hon replied that they did not remove anything, just shifted things around.

Jay Wierenga, Communications Director, described his efforts to reach out to each division to gain some feedback on the website prior to the pandemic. Currently, he has sent out a feedback request to the chiefs to see how to improve the webpages. Mr. Wierenga is expecting the feedback by the end of the week and will present on how to proceed based on the info gathered at the April meeting.

Commissioner Wilson inquired about advanced searches to add to the website to find targeted information with greater ease. Mr. Wierenga agreed and stated that that topic arose in the feedback and he will collaborate with IT to implement the advanced searches. Chair Miadich asked Staff to bring back the cost and feasibility of adding these features in April.

4. Presentation on Statement of Economic Interest Form 700 Outreach and Helpful Tools

Dr Jue Wang, Administrative Division Manager, gave a presentation regarding the Form 700 2020 Annual Filing March 1st group. As of March 10th, 2021, there were 93% on time filers, 0.68% filed late, and 6.19% not filed yet. Dr. Wang showed the timeline for the annual notifications and stated the SEI unit encourages filers to utilize the e-filing option. Dr. Wang demonstrated the Filer Video Tutorial that is attached in every notification email. Commissioner Wilson clarified if the link is included in the notification emails sent to filers. Dr. Wang stated that they include the link in every notification.

Chair Miadich asked if the 7 filers who have not filed might have completed their SEI and that we have not received proof on our end. Dr. Wang stated that yes, some of them have been filed but they have not been mailed to us yet. Chair Miadich stated that there should be a footnote or note to clarify that although it shows “not filed” in our system, it has been filed to allow for greater transparency with the public.

Commissioner Wilson asked there are any communications between the entities about the filing officers. Dr. Wang stated that the filing officer is responsible for communicating who has not filed but agreed Staff could communicate more effectively with the filing officers.

Chair Miadich asked if there were any recent efforts to understand why people still file with paper instead of the e-filing method. Dr. Wang states that people are not accustomed to the e-filing method or afraid of their information being leaked on the internet.

Chair Miadich asked about gender neutral titles for the SEI online filing system. Dr. Wang stated that the Staff matches the titles with the conflict of interest codes to ensure consistency.

Commissioner Wilson believes the FPPC should be more proactive in removing gendered titles.

Adam Silver, Chief Counsel to the Assembly Legislative Ethics Committee, made a brief comment on item 4. Mr. Silver stated that the conflict of interest revision and Form 700 presentation and format were very user friendly. Mr. Silver agrees with Commissioner Wilson's statement about more detailed search results on the FPPC website.

MOTION: To adjourn. Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Chair Miadich. The motion was approved 2-0.

The meeting concluded at 10:54 a.m.
