

CONSUMER PROTECTION BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING
May 19, 2021

PRESENT: Keith Abel
Michael F. Flynn
Beth Lerner
Joseph Morguess
Jonathan Lightfoot

TEAMS: Lawrence Clark
Jennifer Goldfarb
Kimberly Scnitzius
Jill Aronfsky
Ric Green
Jenny Rubalcaba
Hassan Sharee
Herb Daley

ABSENT: Robert Murphy (Letter of Resignation)
Jephtha Holness (Letter of Resignation)

Guest: Ms. Jerkins

ALSO PRESENT: Joseph O'Geen – ECPD Senior Program/Project Coordinator
W. Gail Custode – ECPD Senior Program/Project Coordinator
Javier Navas – Assistant County Attorney
Mr. Doug McCrary – Analyst Supervisor
Beverly Cooley – Board Clerk

Consumer Protection Board

The Consumer Protection Board Meeting was held on May 19, 2021. The meeting was called to order @ 9:30am by Michael Flynn, Board Chair. The Roll Call was conducted, and quorum was established.

Michael Flynn, Board Chair asked for motion of approval to accept minutes from the March 17, 2021 Board Meeting, which was done by Jonathan Lightfoot, and seconded by Herb Daley.

Correspondence was given by Joe O'Geen Senior Program/Project Coordinator on the appointment of Naomie Labaty who will be replacing Orlando Garcia, as Intergovernmental Affairs/Board Section, Board Administrator. Ms. Labaty's contact information is NLabaty@broward.org and her phone number is (954)357-5934.

Mr. O'Geen reported two resignations from the Board which are Mr. Robert Murphy, and Mr. Jeff Holness both received on May 12, 2021. The Commissioners will be contacted about 5 vacancies.

Administrative Report – 2nd Quarter FY2021 (January-March)

Mr. O'Geen explained the report of scams that have been sent to the FTC, and the impact and amounts it has been costing consumers, and how they will begin to recover more than 73mil in losses.

Twitter followers grew since last quarter, some 9,200 in last quarter, and more than \$14, 000 has been returned to customers this quarter.

Division Counsel's Report

Mr. Javier Navas, County Attorney, had nothing to report, but did request volunteers to work on Nuisance Abatement Research.

Mr. Navas informed us that Amanda Tolbert will act as his backup for future meetings.

Old Business-Nuisance Abatement Update

Mr. Flynn explained our role as it applies to Nuisance Abatement and based on Broward County Ordinance it will be hard to prosecute if our Ordinance is not rewritten.

Mr. Navas will reach out to the City Attorneys for Riviera Beach, and try to set up a meeting so they can explain how they are handling their Nuisance Abatement issues.

We will look at what Riviera Beach's protocol is on how Nuisance Abatement is handled and interpreted.

After research is finished, Mr. Flynn wants the Ordinance looked at, revisions written, as well as, statutes based on how it is written.

Mr. Nick Nunez, Student Intern with our law summer program will also work on the research with Mr. Navas.

Report will to be brought to Board for review.

Mr. Daly wanted to know what our role will be with Nuisance Abatement, which Mr. Flynn explained in detail.

Mr. Flynn wants the citizens of Broward County to be a part of this as well, since they are mainly the ones calling in the complaints.

Ms. Beth Lerner spoke on overdoses in city of Lake Worth.

Ms. Wendy Jerkins, guest, spoke on the concerns of the homeowners.

Mr. Flynn also wants the municipal codes for Delray & Lake Worth looked at, as well, to see how they handle their Nuisance Abatement Issues.

Please see attachment of Riviera Beach's Code of Ordinances.

Board Members Concerns

Carlos Cabieses, Hearing Clerk, wanted Mr. O'Geen to remind members that all meetings are held in person.

Gail Custode, Project Manager wanted Board to know that mask mandates have gone from required to recommended.

Mr. Lightfoot spoke of Exclusionary Issues-talked about citizen concerns as to how this is handled. Mr. Flynn went into great lengths as to the history of the Exclusionary rule on criminal proceedings.

Mr. Flynn, Chair made motion to Adjourn this meeting, Mr. Herbert Daley seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2021.