

**CONSUMER PROTECTION BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 16, 2022 9:30 am**

PRESENT:           Abel, Keith  
                      Aronofsky, Jill  
                      Clark, Lawrence "Larry"  
                      Daley, Herbert  
                      Flynn, Michael  
                      Green, Ric  
                      Morguess, Joseph (telephonically)  
                      Ram, Tewari  
                      Rubalcaba, Jenny

ABSENT:           Burgess, Antonio  
                      Hugley, Christopher

ALSO PRESENT:   O'Geen, Joseph – Regulated Business Administrator  
                      Custode, W. Gail – ECPD Regulated Enforcement Administrator  
                      Abraham, Ricardo – Assistant County Attorney  
                      Apicella, Robert – Supervisor Regulatory Business  
                      Mr. Doug McCrary – Analyst Supervisor  
                      Cabieses, Carlos – Board Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Michael Flynn, Chair. The Roll Call was conducted, and a quorum was established.

Panel sign-up sheets and attendance were distributed among members.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Email from the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. See below.

#### RESIGNATION AND NEW MEMBERS

Mr. O'Geen announced that Board Member Ms. Beth Lerner had resigned from the Consumer Protection Board. No new members have been appointed.

Mr. O'Geen stated that the board is still in need of seven (7) members and asked members to reach out to their commissioners to appoint new members.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. O'Geen announced that Mr. Philip R. McChesney had been appointed as the new Director of the Division.

Mr. Philip R. McChesney introduced himself and greeted the board. Mr. McChesney stated he had been the acting director for the last two (2) years. He thanked the board for their time and service

and added that the value that each board member for the County is extremely important. He also encouraged the board to reach out to their commissioners to appoint new board members.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/DIVISION'S REPORT

##### Quarterly Reports

Mr. O'Geen began by informing the board that the money returned to customers for the last quarter was almost \$30,000. Report from the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of FY 2022 of the Broward County Consumer Protection Program was distributed among members.

He then added that there was a correspondence from the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, dated November 10, 2022, asking board members to complete their profile on the Granicus system website. Names of the board members that needed to complete their profiles were mentioned, as well as the names of those who had completed it.

On another subject, Mr. Flynn stated he was happy to learn that consumers were able to get money (at least \$25,000 per quarter) from the Division; however, he would like to see that number increase three (3) more times.

#### COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Assistant County Attorney Ricardo Abraham started by saying that during the last quarter, there were two (2) consumer complaints that were heard by the board. One case involved a person being overcharged for moving his belongings, and the other case was from a furniture store that was doing business without using the proper return policy sign as required by the Broward County of Ordinances.

Attorney Abraham asked the Board Clerk, Carlos Cabieses, to email the board the new Nuisance Abatement proposed version. This short new version contains all the questions and concerns from the last meeting. At the same time, this new version included the sections that were changed, so the board did not have to read through the entire ordinance, just the five (5) or six (6) provisions. Those provisions represent all the changes that the board requested.

A lengthy discussion was had regarding the above sections. A question-and-answer session followed.

In closing, Mr. Flynn thanked Mr. Abraham for all the work and time he is putting into the Nuisance Abatement proposal.

#### BOARD MEMBERS' CONCERN:

On another topic, Mr. O'Geen stated that at the last meeting, board Member Mr. Morguess asked the Division if they could get in touch with the Convention and Visitor Bureau about those permitted vehicles. Mr. O'Geen said that he did that by looking at their website. He noticed there

were some companies on there that were not currently permitted. He contacted the office and asked them to send him a list of the hotels that provide transportation. He then visited each hotel to determine whether they did or not. From this point forward, when someone asks to get on their website as a transportation company, they need to reach out to the Division first to make sure they are permitted. The Division has this working relationship now to ensure that any transportation company that is listed on their website.

In closing, Mr. O'Geen asked the board to remember to respond to all emails, especially when they come from Board Clerk asking for volunteers.

Mr. Flynn stated that former board member Mr. Jeff Holness was elected to the Broward school board, and he was pleased to learn that.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS:

None.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlos Cabieses  
Board Clerk