



Fair Campaign Practices Commission
Open Government Commission

DRAFT MINUTES

March 20, 2025

CONCURRENT REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES COMMISSION AND THE OPEN GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

Civic Center
2180 Milvia St.
Berkeley, CA 94704
Cypress Room

Members Present: Patrick O'Donnell, Janis Ching, Emmanuelle Soichet, Rithwik Sudharsan, Kitt Saginor

Also present: Sam Harvey, Staff Secretary

1. **Call to Order**

Chair called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Roll call taken

3. **Land Acknowledgement**

4. **Approval of agenda**

- a. Public comment: none.
- b. Commission discussion and action.

Motion to approve agenda (M/S/C: Ching/O'Donnell; Ayes: O'Donnell, Ching, Sudharsan, Saginor; Noes: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Soichet, Lazarus)

5. **Public Comment**

One speaker.

6. **Approval of minutes for February 20, 2025 FCPC-OGC Regular Meeting**

- a. Public comment: none.
- b. Commission discussion and action

Motion to approve minutes (M/S/C: O'Donnell/Ching; Ayes: O'Donnell, Ching, Sudharsan, Saginor; Noes: none; Abstain: Soichet; Absent: Lazarus)

Fair Campaign Practices Commission (FCPC) Agenda

7. **Reports**

- a. Report from Chair
- b. Report from Staff

8. **Report from Negotiating Subcommittee: Yes on Measure CC / No on Measure BB**

- a. Public comment: none.
- b. Item continued to April meeting.

9. **Enforcement referral regarding Vanessa Danielle Marrero, Rent Stabilization Board Commissioner**

- a. Public comment: none.
- b. Commission discussion and action

Motion to dismiss the referral (M/S/C: Ching/O'Donnell; Ayes: O'Donnell, Ching, Soichet, Saginor; Noes: none; Abstain: Sudharsan; Absent: Lazarus)

10. **Public financing matching funds disbursement process; disbursements to Mark Humbert for Council 2022**

- a. Public comment: one speaker.
- b. Commission discussion and action

Motion to continue item to April 17, 2025 meeting and direct Secretary to ask City Clerk to provide information about how matching funds requests are processed and how the public financing system may be improved. (M/S/C: Soichet/Sudharsan; Ayes: O'Donnell, Ching, Soichet, Sudharsan, Saginor; Noes: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Lazarus)

11. **Referral: Failure to repay unspent public financing matching funds; discussion and possible action**
 - i. **Jenny Guarino for City Council 2024**
 - ii. **Re-Elect Laura Babitt 4 Berkeley School Board 2024**
 - a. Public comment: none.
 - b. Commission discussion and action

Motion to dismiss the referrals for Jenny Guarino for City Council 2024 and Re-Elect Laura Babitt 4 Berkeley School Board 2024 because the campaigns' statements for period ending December 31, 2024 show zero ending balances, indicating no unspent matching funds to return. (M/S/C: O'Donnell/Soichet; Ayes: O'Donnell, Ching, Soichet, Sudharsan, Saginor; Noes: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Lazarus)

12. **Mandated cost of living adjustments pursuant to Berkeley Election Reform Act and Fair Elections Act; discussion and possible action**
 - a. Public comment: none.
 - b. Commission discussion and action

Motion to approve cost of living adjustments provided to us by the City Clerk (M/S/C: O'Donnell/Ching; Ayes: O'Donnell, Ching, Soichet, Sudharsan, Saginor; Noes: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Lazarus)

13. **Review and possible revision of Procedures for the Fair Campaign Practices Commission**
 - a. Public comment: none.
 - b. Commission discussion and action

Motion to empanel an ad hoc committee to review Procedures for the Fair Campaign Practices Commission and bring recommendations to the Commission (M/S/C: Ching/Sudharsan; Ayes: O'Donnell, Ching, Soichet, Sudharsan, Saginor; Noes: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Lazarus)

Chair Saginor appointed Commissioners O'Donnell, Sudharsan, and Saginor.

Open Government Commission (OGC) Agenda

14. **Reports**
 - a. Report from Chair
 - b. Report from Staff

15. **Referral of non-filing quarterly lobbying reports: Yuri Sadiki-Torres**

- a. Public comment: none.
- b. Commission discussion.

16. **Lobbyist Registration Form Revisions; discussion and Possible Action**

- a. Public comment: none.
- b. Commission discussion and action

Motion to approve revised Lobbyist Registration form submitted by the City Clerk and direct the Secretary to request the City Clerk to provide a report to inform the Commission about the lobbyist registration process & current administration of the ordinance (M/S/C: O'Donnell/Ching; Ayes: O'Donnell, Ching, Soichet, Sudharsan, Saginor; Noes: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Lazarus)

17. **Publicizing commission work and vacancies, information about commissions on the web**

- a. Public comment: none.
- b. Commission discussion.

18. **City Council Rules of Procedure and Order Revisions**

- a. Public comment: none.
- b. Commission discussion.

19. **Progress in providing remote access to Commission and Board meetings**

- a. Public comment: none.
- b. Commission discussion.

20. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn. (M/S/C: Ching/Sudharsan; Ayes: O'Donnell, Ching, Soichet, Sudharsan, Saginor; Noes: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Lazarus)

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.