

## **FAIR EMPLOYMENT WAGE BOARD MEETING ~ 3/27/07**

In attendance: Committee members Chairman Ken Kowalski, Mike Scherer, Ron Yannitello, Karyl Aghajanian, Terry Novak and John Sweo.

Also in attendance: Assistant Law Director Jennifer Mladek and Purchasing Manager Kim Smith.

Meeting began at 6:33 p.m.

Motion by John Sweo, second by Terry Novak, to approve the December 16, 2006 Minutes. All members voting yea.

Chairman Ken Kowalski opened the meeting by welcoming new Board Members Mike Scherer and Karyl Aghajanian.

Ken Kowalski reported that the FEWB Ordinance calls for an evaluation on the impact of the ordinance after a three year period which would have been February 1, 2007. We need to think about how to proceed. Assistant Law Director Mladek advised that the Board could make recommendations to the Mayor and Council regarding the evaluation. It was decided Chairman Kowalski would draft a letter to Council and the Mayor regarding the evaluation.

Purchasing Manager Smith reported that the living wage had been increased to \$10.56/hour with benefits and \$11.70/hour without benefits effective January 1, 2007.

Purchasing Manager Smith also advised that 2007 Living Wage Vendors, at this point, are: Allied Waste Services, Valley By-Products, Waste Management of Ohio, Brewer-Garrett, Gardiner-Trane, Community Hiring Hall and Baumann Enterprises, Inc. She indicated that for most of the vendors, the Living Wage is a non-issue because the companies already pay their employees above that wage. The vendor that has been most effected by our Living Wage is Community Hiring Hall, the temporary labor for refuse pick-up. Before the living wage, it was hard to find good help for this job but the living wage has made it easier.

Chairman Kowalski asked if employees of vendors are required to pay their employees the living wage who are not actually working on the Lakewood contract (i.e. a secretary who works for a construction company that is doing business with the City of Lakewood) Purchasing Manager Smith advised the employees have to actually be working in the City to be covered under our Living Wage Ordinance.

Chairman Kowalski began a discussion about when the semi-annual meetings should be held and what makes the most sense. It was decided that the first meeting of the year would be held in March or April and the second meeting would be held in September or October.

Discussion of election of chair and vice-chair for 2007.

Karyl Aghjanian nominated Ken Kowalski, seconded by Terry Novak, to be the chairperson for 2007. All members voted yea.

Ron Yanitello nominated Terry Novak, seconded by Karyl Aghjanian, to be Vice-Chair of the Board for 2007.

Ken Kowalski nominated John Sweo, seconded by Terry Novak , to be Vice-Chair of Board for 2007.

Yanitello, Sweo, Scherer and Aghjanian vote to elect Terry Novak vice-chair.

Ken Kowalski and Terry Novak vote to elect John Sweo vice-chair.

Terry Novak elected vice-chair.

Chairman Kowalski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Sweo seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Garrett  
Secretary of FEWB