Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Special Meeting August 15, 2011

A special meeting of the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission convened on August 15, 2011 in Room 4010 of the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue. Commission Chair Robert Mahon called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. The Chair, together with Vice-Chair Bill Sherman, Commissioners Tarik Burney, David Mendoza, and Amit Ranade joined the meeting by telephone. Commissioner Rich Cohan was absent. Executive Director Wayne Barnett and staff member Polly Grow were present.

1) Amendment to remove prohibition on discussing a candidate's opponent from the Video Voters' Guide Administrative Rules.

The Executive Director told the Commission that a request for comment had been published in the Daily Journal of Commerce, and that he had distributed an agenda for the meeting on August 11, 2011. Staff had received no written comments, and no one from the public was present to testify.

The Executive Director read the text of Rule 2.8 to the Commission, and said that the question before them was whether they wanted to align the Video Voters' Guide Rules with those governing the printed pamphlet by eliminating the last sentence of Rule 2.8, which says: "Candidates must not discuss their opponent(s)."

Commissioner Sherman made a motion to remove the sentence, and Commissioner Iglitzin seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

The Executive Director told the Commission that he would file the amended rule with the City Clerk as soon as possible, so that it would be in place for the tapings for the general election video voters' guide.

The August 15, 2011 Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Special Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:15 A.M.

