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**Ohio Attorney General's Charitable Advisory Council
10 a.m., Jan. 13, 2014
Central Ohio BBB, 1169 Dublin Rd., Columbus
Minutes**

Participants: Mary Gallagher, Jim Ashenurst, David Ball, Jason Dominguez, Monica Moloney, Kip Morse, Stephanie Moulton and Jennifer Odenweller. Others present included Erika Lehman, Executive Director of The Center for Ethics at the Cincinnati Better Business Bureau, Sandra Guile, Cincinnati BBB Public Relations Specialist, Dean Pulliam, Charity Accountability Analyst at BBB of Central Ohio, and Charitable Law Section staff members Pete Thomas, Charity Robl and Beth Short.

- I. Meeting was called to order by Ms. Gallagher, chair.
- II. Ms. Short updated members on roster changes for the Council. Brad Bebout has retired from the Marion Community Foundation and Jennifer Eschbach has left the Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations. If there are suggestions on individuals who might be an asset on the Council, alert Ms. Short who can forward them to the Attorney General for consideration of appointment to the Council.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Morse, seconded by Ms. Odenweller, minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
- IV. Council members thanked Mr. Morse for hosting the meeting of the Council and he shared information about the Better Business Bureau's involvement in evaluating charitable organizations.

Ms. Lehman explained that the national Wise Giving Alliance evaluates about 1,400 charities involved in national solicitations. But the local BBBs are also involved in evaluating local and regional charities and routinely invite charities to be evaluated against 20 standards developed nationally by charitable experts. Results of these evaluations are shared publicly online, in publications and in response to thousands of citizens requesting charity information. She said the goal is to get clear information out to the public and the BBB stands ready to assist charities through the evaluation system.

- V. Mr. Thomas updated the Council on a number of issues within the Charitable Law Section, as well as provided an overview of the criminal trial against Bobby Thompson who was recently convicted of fraud and theft in connection with the U.S. Navy Veterans

Association. He also provided an overview of recent legislative matters, including gambling matters.

- VI. Council members unanimously expressed support for the Attorney General's office to renew its co-sponsorship of the annual OANO conference.
- VII. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,


Beth Short