

Ethics Board Meeting Minutes - Approved
Date: April 27, 2017

The meeting of the Ethics Board began at 6:30 pm in the Yorktown Community and Cultural Center, Room 209.

This was a Closed Session meeting for the purpose of reviewing a recent complaint, addressed to Albert Durante, Chairperson, and filed in Town Hall.

Members attending were: Albert Durante, Acting Chair, James Martorano, Michael Reda, Lynette Waterhouse, and Laurie Noonan, Secretary.

Non-voting Member/Ethics Board Counsel: Mr. Michael Mc Dermott, Town Attorney.

1. Regular Business:

- a. Attendance was noted.
- b. Albert began the meeting with a review of the Ethics Board procedures for handling a formally filed Complaint, as per our Board's established policies and procedures.

2. New Business

- a. A discussion took place on the appropriateness of having the Town Attorney present as a participant in our Ethics Board meetings. Some of our members were concerned that having the Town Attorney participate, may be perceived as being inappropriate, or a conflict of interest for any complaint involving the Town Board.
- b. It was noted that the Town Code of Ethics, drafted in 1964, included a provision for the Town Attorney to be part of the board. The Town Attorney is statutorily assigned to the Ethics Board as a non-voting member. However, the Ethics Board is not obligated to take any advice offered by the Town Attorney.
- c. As section 45-5-A of the Town Ethics Code is somewhat vague, it was offered that our Board recommend that the Town Board re-visit and clarify the Town Attorney's participation in the Ethics Board meetings, during the next revision of the Town Code of Ethics.
- d. All members ultimately agreed to the Town Attorney participation in our meetings, until such time that such participation is amended or prohibited by the Town Code.

3. Closed Session

- a. The meeting was then moved to close session to address the recently submitted Complaint #2017-04-01.

4. Next Steps

- a. Albert indicated that he would speak with Michael Grace and Mary Capoccia regarding their efforts to find a new Ethics Board Secretary.
- b. Albert moved to close the meeting at 7:35 pm, second by Jim Martorano.
- c. The next regular meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 12, 2017, at 5:30pm in the Engineering Conference area.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.