

1. Board Of Ethics Meeting Documents

Documents:

[EXHIBIT A .PDF](#)

[EXHIBIT B .PDF](#)

[MEETING AGENDA .PDF](#)

[PROPOSED 2017 MEETING SCHEDULE DRAFT .PDF](#)

GREENWICH BOARD OF ETHICS

Minutes of Regular Meeting on September 13, 2016

Members Present: Paul de Bary, Chair, Robert Grele, Acting Secretary, John Margenot, Robert Sisca (via speaker phone), Peter Tesei (partial as shown)

Members Absent: Rev. Ian Jeremiah

Others Present: Laureen Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 P.M. by the Chair, who connected Mr. Sisca by phone and noted that a quorum was present. He also noted that the agenda for the meeting had been provided to all the members, posted online and posted in Town Hall in accordance with Freedom of Information Act requirements. The Chair had distributed a draft of the minutes of Board's meeting on June 7, 2016. He asked if there were any comments on the minutes. After review, there were no further revisions requested to the minutes.

Upon motion made by Mr. Margenot and seconded by Mr. Grele, the minutes of the June 7, 2016 meeting of the Board were approved (Exhibit A).

The Chair then acknowledged the presence of Ms. Taylor and suggested that she be allowed to address the Board before moving on to the remaining items on the Agenda. Ms. Taylor then informed the Board that she was a descendant of the Lyons family and discussed her efforts to preserve the Lyons family cemetery in Byram. She expressed concerns about a committee that had been formed to suggest alternatives for the future of the cemetery. She noted that she had attended several meetings of this committee and that a Town employee with responsibility for preservation matters appeared to be a member of the committee. Ms. Taylor indicated that she was concerned that the Town had not taken sufficient action to stop or correct encroachments on the cemetery during a recent building project on an adjacent property. The Board asked if she felt that any Town employee or official had an interest in the matter and had done or failed to take any official action as a result. She said that she felt that a Cease and Desist Order that was issued should have been recorded in the Town land records and that she originally thought that an attorney for the adjoining land owner was the 1st Selectman, but later was advised that he was not. She also expressed concern that the committee that had been established to review the options for the cemetery had not followed up on her request to join the committee and felt that the committee had a long range plan to have the Town acquire and improve the cemetery in order to benefit the development of adjacent properties.

brother
of tea

The Board carefully reviewed the provisions of the Code of Ethics that might apply to such a situation and asked Ms. Taylor whether she had any information concerning inappropriate gifts to Town Officers or actions or transactions that may have occurred in which Town Officers had an interest. She indicated that she did not have any specific information of that type, but felt that the situation might provide an opportunity for such activities. The Chair reminded Ms. Taylor that the Board's role was to review and investigate complaints of such behavior and reminded her of her right to file such a complaint at such time as she might become aware of a violation of the Code, as the Board had previously advised her.

The next item on the agenda was the annual report of the Board to the Selectmen and the RTM. The Chair had submitted a draft of the report to the members and asked if there were comments and suggestions. Mr. Sisca asked if the language in the draft properly summarized a resolution that the Board had adopted. He and the other members of the Board also pointed out several other typographical and other minor errors. The chair expressed appreciation for the corrections and promised to review the resolution in question and revise the language to better track the exact language of the Board. The other members of the Board expressed their appreciation to Mr. de Barry for his work in preparing the report.

The next item on the agenda was a review of the annual financial disclosure statements filed by Town Officers. These had been summarized in the draft annual report, which noted that there had been an increase in the filing of reports by Town Officers disclosing that they ~~and the members indicated that they~~ had family members who were employed by the Town. The members indicated that they felt the summary was accurate and that they had no further comments on the reports.

The next item on the agenda was the review of a submission made in the form of a complaint. In order to comply with State law concerning the review of complaints, it was necessary for the Board to go into executive session to review the submission.

Mr. Grele moved that the Board convene in executive session at 6:30 P.M. to review the submission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Margenot and approved. At this point Ms. Taylor left the meeting.

During the executive session, at 6:15 P.M., Mr. Tesei asked to join the meeting to discuss a matter that did not require executive session. Mr. Margenot moved that the Board suspend its executive session to allow Mr. Tesei's concern to be addressed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sisca and approved without dissent. Ms. Taylor did not return to the meeting.

Mr. Tesei and the Board then reviewed the provisions of the Code of Ethics relating to gifts and how they applied to travel by Town Officers that might be paid for by a party or parties other than the Town, even though there was a Town purpose served by the travel. Mr. Tesei indicated that such a matter was in the early stages of consideration and that he wanted to be sure that the Town avoided any appearance of

impropriety in its consideration of the matter as well as to be sure that the letter of the Code of Ethics was adhered to in connection with any action that might be taken. The Board indicated its willingness to render an Advisory Opinion in the event that a plan emerged that allowed all appropriate facts and circumstances to be evaluated.

Mr. Tesei then left the meeting. Mr. Margenot then moved that the Board reconvene in executive session at 7:19 P.M. to continue its review of the submission that had been made to the Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sisca and approved without dissent.

The Board ended its Executive session at 7:35 P.M. The Chairman noted that the Board had thoroughly reviewed the submission that had been received and, after accepting at face value the allegations contained therein, had found that the submission did not contain sufficient information to form the basis for a complaint of a violation of the Code. The Chair noted that the submission was anonymous and that therefore it was not possible to obtain additional information from the complainant.

Mr. Sisca then made a motion, seconded by Mr. Grele , as follows:

RESOLVED: THAT THE RECENT SUBMISSION MADE TO THE BOARD HAS BEEN CAREFULLY REVIEWED BY THE BOARD AND THE BOARD HAS FOUND THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN INSUFFICIENT TO SERVE AS A COMPLAINT OF A VIOLATION OF THE CODE. THE BOARD THEREFORE FINDS NO REASON TO CONDUCT A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF THE MATTER OR MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY AS TO THE ALLEGATIONS CONTAINED IN THE SUBMISSION. ACCORDINGLY, THE SECRETARY IS HEREBY DIRECTED TO ATTACH THE SUBMISSION TO THESE MINUTES AS EXHIBIT B.

This Resolution was approved by a vote of 3 in favor, with one abstention.

Following this action, there was no further business before the Board and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:45 P.M.

GREENWICH BOARD OF ETHICS

Minutes of Regular Meeting on June 7th, 2016

Members Present: Paul de Bary, Chair, Robert Grele, Rev. Ian Jeremiah, Secretary, John Margenot, Robert Sisca

Members Absent: None

Others Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 P.M. by the Chair, who noted that a quorum was present and that the agenda for the meeting had been provided to all the members, posted online and posted in Town Hall in accordance with Freedom of Information Act requirements. The Chair had distributed a draft of the minutes of Board's meeting on April 13th, 2016, as filed with the Town Clerk.

He also noted that it would be appropriate to correct the title of the Greenwich Board of Ethics Minutes of Meeting on September 15th, 2015 that had incorrectly showed the date as September 15th, 2016. Upon motion made by Mr. Robert Grele and seconded by Mr. John Margenot, the correction was unanimously adopted.

After review of the draft April 13, 2016 minutes, there were no revisions requested to the draft minutes. Upon motion made by Mr. Robert Grele and seconded by Mr. Robert Sisca, the minutes of the April 12th, 2016 meeting of the Board were unanimously approved as attached to these minutes.

The Chair then reported on an agenda item that had been deferred at the previous meeting of April 12th, 2016 concerning certain emails that had been sent to the Board and the Chair with assertions that various unethical behavior was occurring, but that she did not have the resources or ability to file a formal Complaint about them. The sender of emails had indicated that she would once again be unable to attend the meeting and had requested a further postponement of the item till September 2016. The Chair reported that, at the time that the individual in question had requested the last postponement, he had advised her that it would be appropriate to focus her further correspondence on the question of whether the circumstances she was complaining of involved a violation of the Code of Ethics and whether her circumstances warranted the Board making an exception to its Statement of Procedures as to the requirements for a formal Complaint. In the interim, however, she had continued to send a flurry of emails to the Chair on a wide range of other concerns. The Board then reviewed the email correspondence that she had sent that either was specifically addressed to the Board or contained assertions that the Town was acting in an unethical manner.

Following the Board's thorough review and discussion, a resolution was proposed as follows:

RESOLVED, that following the Board's consideration of voluminous materials which had been sent to the Board and the Chairman by an individual, the Board hereby determines (1) that such materials do not constitute or include a formal complaint of a specific violation or violations of the Code of Ethics; (2) that such materials do not contain information that could serve as a basis for a Complaint that the Code of Ethics had been violated; and (3) that the Board has found no basis to waive the requirements of its Statement of Procedure requiring a formal complaint in connection with such submissions; and FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby requests that the Chair advise this individual (a) that the Board will not consider this matter further unless or until a formal Complaint is filed and; (b) that this individual is free to file such a formal Complaint in accordance with the Board's requirements and is free to attend future meetings of the Board if she may wish to address the Board personally.

Mr. John Margenot moved the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Sisca and approved unanimously.

The next item to be addressed was the Contact List of the Town of Greenwich, specifically as it related to the members of the Board of Ethics, distributed by the Chair. He indicated that the list had been revised to correct a typo in the home address of one of the members.

The next item to be addressed was the Annual Reminder Letter to be circulated to all Town Officers. The Chair distributed a draft of a letter to be sent out under his name and, having received a favorable reaction from the other members, advised the Board that no further action was required to be taken by the Board in order for him to complete the letter.

Following this discussion, there was no further business before the Board and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:45 P.M.

Greenwich Board of Ethics
c/o Office of the Town Attorney Department of Law
Town Hall
Greenwich, Connecticut 06830

June 10, 2016

To whom it might concern,

It has come to my attention that Rory Freedman of 7 Grimes Road in Old Greenwich has stated that he has "a town guy in his pocket" and has been able to do work to his house that is in violation of code with illegal aliens. The building dept. shut down unauthorized work on his home before (2003-2004). I hope this matter is investigated.

Thank you.

Draft

Town of Greenwich

Board of Ethics

Regular Meeting Schedule for 2017

The Board of Ethics has adopted the following meeting schedule for its regular meetings during the 2017 Calendar Year:

February 7, 2017

April 11, 2017

June 6, 2017

September 12, 2017

December 5, 2017

Board of Ethics Meetings are usually held at 5:30 P.M. at Town Hall. For specific information concerning the location and time of each meeting, please consult the Town Facilities Calendar. Special and emergency meetings of the Board of Ethics may be scheduled upon notice to the Town Clerk, which will be posted in accordance with the requirements of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act. That Act requires notices for special meeting to be filed with the Town Clerk and posted on the meeting page of the Board's web site at least 24 hours before the meeting, but does not require notice of emergency meetings where the emergency is justified. Agendas for regular and special meetings are also required to be filed in the office of the Town Clerk and posted on the Board's web site at least 24 hours in advance.

Any person who files a written request, and agrees to pay reasonable charges as described below, will be sent copies of notices of regular and special meetings at the time they are filed with the Town Clerk. Any such request must specify the e-mail, fax or physical mailing address to which the copy of the notice is to be given and will be effective for one year from the date of filing. A renewal request may be filed during January of each

year. The cost of this service will be: 1) for e-mail notification - \$25, 2) for fax notification - \$35, or 3) for 1st class mail notification - \$45. Persons making such requests should enclose a valid check drawn on a solvent account and made payable to "Town of Greenwich" for the required amount with the request sent to the Town Clerk. The request should be mailed or delivered to the Town Clerk at Town Hall, 101 Field Point Road - Greenwich, CT 06830. A copy of the request should be sent to the Secretary of the Board of Ethics at the same address.

T O W N O F G R E E N W I C H

Board of Ethics

Regularly Scheduled Meeting

**Tuesday December 13th, 2016
5:30 P.M.**

**Gisborne Conference Room
1st Floor, Town Hall
101 Field Point Road, Greenwich CT**

A G E N D A

- 1. Approval of Minutes**
- 2. Regular Meeting Schedule for 2017**
- 3. Review of Potential Complaint (Executive Session)**
- 4. Adjournment**

T O W N O F G R E E N W I C H

Board of Ethics

Regularly Scheduled Meeting

**Tuesday December 13th, 2016
5:30 P.M.**

**Gisborne Conference Room
1st Floor, Town Hall
101 Field Point Road, Greenwich CT**

A G E N D A

- 1. Approval of Minutes**
- 2. Regular Meeting Schedule for 2017**
- 3. Review of Potential Complaint (Executive Session)**
- 4. Adjournment**