GREENWICH BOARD OF ETHICS

Minutes of Regular Meeting on April 24th, 2018

Members Present: Paul de Bary, Chair and Acting Secretary, and Robert Grele throughout, John Margenot and Robert Sisca, as indicated.

Members Absent: Rev. Ian Jeremiah

Others Present: Thomas Klein

The meeting was called to order at 5:48 P.M. by the Chair, who 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. He also noted that, with Mr. Grele and Mr. Sisca present, there was a quorum. The members present had received a draft of the minutes of Board’s meeting on February 13th, 2018. After review, there were no revisions requested to the draft minutes.

Upon motion made by Mr. Grele and seconded by Mr. Sisca, the minutes of the February 13th, 2018 meeting of the Board were approved as attached to these minutes as Exhibit A.

The Chair then reported that he had not been able to maintain sufficient contact with representatives of the Commission on Aging for them to be able to attend the meeting. He indicated that it was also inconvenient for them to attend the June 5th scheduled regular meeting, although they could attend the Tuesday before or after. After getting a sense of the availability of the Board members present, the Chair indicated that he would see if it was feasible to reschedule the June 5th meeting. Discussion of the Commission’s request was then deferred until later in the meeting.

The next item on the agenda was a request for an advisory opinion by the director of a Town Department who had been asked to sit on a “Client Advisory Board” by a Town Vendor. A copy of the request had been provided to the members of the Board and the person requesting the opinion was present to answer any questions that the Board might have.

The members of the Board reviewed a number of areas with the Director, requesting additional details about the Director’s role in the selection and ongoing supervision of the vendor, the exact nature of the advisory board’s expected operations, the benefit of participating in the advisory board compared to the time involved, the possibility that the operations of the advisory board might change in ways that could compromise the Director and what expenses were expected to be covered by the Town vs. the vendor. During this discussion, Mr. Margenot joined the meeting.
Following this discussion, the Director offered to provide the Chair with more information and the Chair indicated that the information would be shared with the members of the Board. The next step would be to work on a description of facts and have it reviewed at the next meeting. The Director indicated that there was no urgent need for the advisory opinion and, as a result, continuing the review at the next meeting would be fine. At this point, Mr. Klein and Mr. Sisca left the meeting.

The Board then briefly reviewed a draft statement of facts that had been prepared in connection with the request from the Commission on Aging. It was agreed that further discussion with representatives of the Commission would be helpful.

Following this discussion, there was no further business before the Board and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:42 P.M.
GREENWICH BOARD OF ETHICS

Minutes of Regular Meeting on February 13th, 2018

Members Present: Paul de Bary, Chair, Robert Grele, Robert Sisca (via telephone conference), Rev. Ian Jeremiah, Secretary

Members Absent: John Margenot

Others Present: Steven Katz, Kathryn Jurac

The meeting was called to order at 5:53 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.

A draft of the minutes of the Board’s meeting on December 5th, 2017, as filed with the Town Clerk had been distributed to the members. The Chair asked if there were any comments on the minutes. Upon motion made by Mr. Grele and seconded by Mr. Sisca, the minutes of December 5th, 2017 meeting of the Board were unanimously approved as attached to these minutes (Exhibit A).

The Chair then presented the Term Expiration Adjustments, as requested by the RTM, of the Board members from March 30th to June 30th.

The Chair then informed that the Annual Report, approved by the Board on December 5th, 2017, and including a recommendation on the draft proposed technical amendments to the Code of Ethics as approved by the Board on April 12th, 2016, had been sent to the RTM and to the Selectman. To date, no input had been received.

The next item on the agenda was the pending Advisory Opinion request by the Commission on Aging. The Board discussed on the outline of facts and issues as drafted by Mr. de Bary. Mr. Sisca left the meeting (via telephone conference) at 7:10 P.M. Mr. Katz left the meeting at 7:25 P.M. The Board deferred taking action regarding the Advisory Opinion pending further discussion at its next meeting, reiterating that it would be timely to provide a finalized Advisory Opinion by the end of the fiscal year, if possible.

The Board then postponed discussion of the remaining items on the agenda as subject matter for its next meeting.

Following this, there was no further business before the Board and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:32 P.M.
DATE: APRIL 24, 2018

MOTION/RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD’S FEBRUARY 13TH, 2018 MEETING.

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