

CITY OF STAMFORD

Board of Ethics  
Stamford Government Center  
July 17, 2019

***Draft Minutes***

Present

Allan Lang, Chair  
Myrna Sessa, member  
Monica Smyth, member  
Thomas Hynes, member

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lang at 7:10 p.m. Also present at the meeting were Steven Conover, the Board's attorney; Annabelle Figueroa, Representative for the Board of Representatives; and Kevin Quinn, a potential new Board member.

Chair Lang read some prepared remarks into the record. He noted that various scheduling conflicts prevented more members from attending tonight's meeting. He also summarized the procedural treatment of Advisory Opinions.

1. Election of new secretary. Since only four members were present, Mr. Lang asked for a motion to continue this election until the next meeting. Moved by Ms. Smyth and seconded by Ms. Sessa. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Minutes of May 15, 2019 were accepted; motion by Mr. Hynes, second by Ms. Sessa. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Chair Lang reminded the Board that he had filed the Annual Report of the Board required by the Code.
4. Election of a vice chair. Members agreed that it would be helpful for the Board of Ethics to have a vice chair, but deferred the election until the next meeting.
5. Advisory Opinion Request by Rep. Anabel Figueroa. Chair Lang thanked Ms. Figueroa for her request. He also abstained from deliberating as he had rendered a prior opinion on the issue. In summary, Ms. Figueroa asked whether regarding the upcoming Board of Representatives August 5 vote on selection of a new police chief, she has a conflict of interest because 1. her husband is on the Police Commission and/or 2. her son is employed as an officer in the police department.

Ms. Figueroa stated that she believes she does not have a conflict because her family has no financial interest in the selection of a police chief. At the meeting, Ms. Figueroa asked for a verbal opinion, but the next day called Chair Lang to ask for a written one. The Board found that with respect to her husband, she does not have a conflict of interest if she participates in the vote to approve a new police chief. However, with respect to her son, there is a conflict of interest. A written opinion will be prepared and be presented at the next Board meeting.

6. Investigating Board Request for an Extension of Time. Chair Lang invited a motion to grant the extension. Moved by Mr. Hynes. Second by Ms. Sessa. The Board voted unanimously to grant an extension for 30 days, until September 4, 2019.
7. Template for Recording and Processing Complaints. The Board unanimously agreed that it would be helpful to have templates to address process for handling complaints filed with the Board.
8. Chair Lang withdrew from the agenda the issue regarding the Stipulated Agreement for Ms. Kissen.
9. Executive Session regarding Security Strategy. Chair Lang asked for a motion to move the Board into Executive Session. Moved by Ms. Sessa and second by Mr. Hynes. Motion passed unanimously. Board went into Executive Session at 8:30 pm.
10. At 8:44 pm, Ms. Smyth moved to leave Executive Session. Second by Mr. Hynes. Motion passed unanimously.
11. Adjournment moved by Chair Lang, second by Ms. Sessa, unanimously passed. Adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Smyth, secretary

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