



TOWN OF HAMDEN

Final/Unapproved 12 04 2020

Board of Ethics

Minutes: The Board of Ethics, Town of Hamden held a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 via virtual Zoom; the following issues were discussed:

Attending: Philip G. Kent, Jean Larson, Ann Pari, Ellen Rosenthal, and Edward Simon. Absent: Walter Rochow. Also in attendance: Patrice LeMoine, Clerk for the Board.

1. Call to order: Mr. Kent called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. Approval of minutes of the meetings held in June and August. Chairman Kent entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Larson motioned to approve the minutes of the August 11, 25, and August 28, 2020 meetings as presented. Ms. Pari seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The chair called for a vote:

P. Kent	aye	E. Rosenthal	aye
J. Larson	aye	E. Simon	aye
A. Pari	aye		

3. Correspondence: Mr. Kent noted the meeting schedule for 2021 was sent to the Board a week ago. In review of the schedule, the Board agreed to meet at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

February 2	June 8	October 5
April 6	August 3	December 7

Ms. Larson motioned to approve the schedule as presented. Ms. Pari seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The chair called for a vote:

P. Kent	aye	E. Rosenthal	aye
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J. Larson	aye	E. Simon	aye
A. Pari	aye		

4. New Business:

- a. Board Roster / Renewal of Board membership. Mr. Kent noted that Ms. Larson and Mr. Simon's terms are up for renewal (January 31, 2021). Due to the pandemic, the board members will remain as members until the mayor has submitted their reappointments to the legislative council. Each Board member agreed to contact the Town Clerk and Mayor's office to confirm their interest to renew.
- b. Report on status of code revisions and forms revisions – There is no update or report to provide at this time. Mr. Kent had reached out to the Mayor and Attorney Gruen regarding the revisions to the code of ethics and forms. He will send a reminder and confirm when the revisions will go before the legislative council.
- c. Report on informal inquiries re advisory opinions/potential complaints – Mr. Kent confirmed a complaint cannot be submitted anonymously and it requires a notary; and an advisory/opinion can be submitted via electronically or in writing. When we complete the online documents, we will add the codes for the advisory opinion with instructions for one to complete the forms. Residents can also contact the Board for a copy.
- d. Charter Commission – Commissioner S. Mednick from the Ethics Review Commission invited Mr. Kent to speak at the December 9th meeting. Once Mr. Mednick sends the questions to Mr. Kent, he will share them with the Board.

5. Old Business:

- a. Remote Attendance Policy – Ms. Larson prepared a draft of the policy. This reflected the recommendations from when the Board reviewed at the June and August meetings. Ms. Larson noted that since we are meeting remotely, due to the pandemic, the Board can amend the policy to reflect the current format. The Board discussed the options, either videoconference or teleconference. The Board agreed that the decision to conduct meeting (regular or special) will be at the discretion of the Board.

The Board discussed the preference of continuing the meetings virtually, rather than in-person. Examples are due to inclement weather; holding emergency meetings are held on short notice and at any time of the day; the ability of using Zoom or Webex enables the Board to share documents electronically; and if the Board should need to meet with a resident or with the public, the Board will hold a meeting the town's property.

Mr. Kent will reach out to Mr. Rochow to confirm his availability to attend future meetings.

- b. Continued discussion re list of possible Investigators – follow-up on letter and list for letters to be sent to. Currently there are no updates, therefore, the topic is tabled until February 2021.
 - c. Review and discussion of complaint form – As previously discussed, Ms. LeMoine will complete the draft of the forms and enclose links of the code and instructions. She will share with the Board before the February meeting.
6. Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
7. Adjournment: Chairman Kent requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. At 8:07 p.m. Mr. Simon motioned to adjourn and Ms. Pari seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by:

s/ Patrice A. LeMoine
Clerk for the Board of Ethics