

Town of Clarence
Ethics Board Minutes
May 8, 2019

Chairman Drinkard called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Ethics Board Members present:

Chairman Gerry Drinkard
Secretary Al Schultz
Dave D'Amato

Vice Chairwoman Sue Powers
Michele Braun

Ethics Board Members absent:

Debra Fine

Note that there is still one Board vacancy and, to our knowledge, there are currently no applicants for the opening.

Announcement by Chairman Drinkard:

If members of the audience would like to speak at the end of all agenda items, each person speaking will be asked to identify themselves and limit comments to three minutes maximum. There will be no deliberations or question/answer. If interested persons would like to be placed on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting they can make the request through the Town Clerk's office.

Approval April 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve: Sue Powers Second: Michele Braun
Ayes: Drinkard, Braun, Powers, D'Amato, Schultz Nays: none
Motion passed

Executive Session

Motion by Gerry Drinkard, seconded by Al Schultz to enter into Executive Session, pursuant to New York State Open Meetings Law § 105 (1) (f) [consideration of] . . . matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Ayes: Drinkard, Braun, Powers, D'Amato, Schultz Nays: none
Motion passed Board entered into Executive Session at 8:05.

Follow up on Items from the April 10 Meeting:

Unfiled Annual Disclosures

Chairman Drinkard sent a letter on April 11 to Town Board recommending that the four individuals delinquent in filing Annual Disclosure form be removed or suspended from their Town positions.

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Follow up on Items from the April 10 Meeting (continued):

Recusal vs Abstention

Chairman Drinkard issued an explanatory letter on April 16 regarding annual disclosures, transactional disclosures, recusals and abstentions. The letter was basically a rewrite of the guidelines issued in October, 2017 and April, 2018 with additional clarification.

Annual Disclosure Inconsistencies

The fourth and final inconsistency has been resolved; the individual actually did not recuse during calendar year 2018 and the submission was in error.

Annual Disclosure Forms Revision

Revision of the annual form, aimed at clarification around reporting "Transitional Disclosures", is still pending; the Disclosure Review Committee will make a proposal to the full Board at a future meeting.

Motion to exit Executive Session: Gerry Drinkard Second: Sue Powers
Ayes: Drinkard, Braun, Powers, D'Amato, Schultz Nays: none
Motion passed Board exited Executive Session at 8:14

Next Meeting:

Next regular meeting of the Ethics Board is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 8:00 am in the Kathleen Hallock Conference Room.

Should a need arise (for example: new Board candidate, complaint, request for opinion), an "ad hoc" meeting will be scheduled.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 am.

*Respectfully Submitted by Al Schultz
May 9, 2019*