

Suffolk County Board of Ethics

Minutes of Meeting Held on
May 7, 2014
9:30 am

Office of the Board of Ethics
335 Yaphank Avenue, Yaphank, New York 11980

Meeting: *Board Members present:* Chair Robin Long, Vice Chair, Linda Spahr, Member Richard Halverson, Member Dennis O'Doherty, and Member Heather Palmore. *Staff present:* Samantha Segal, Executive Director, taking minutes.

Ascertainment of Quorum: The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair, Robin Long. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

Adoption of Agenda: A motion was made by Dennis O'Doherty, seconded by Richard Halverson, to adopt the agenda as amended. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (5-0-0).

Adoption of Minutes: A motion was made by Dennis O'Doherty, seconded by Richard Halverson, to adopt the minutes of the April 23, 2014 Board Meeting. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (5-0-0).

Public Session: Robin Long opened Public Session. No members of the public were present and no written testimony was submitted. Closed public session.

Chair Report: Robin Long reported on the Board's exceeding their 2013 goals inclusive of Advisory Opinions, Financial Disclosure Policy, Procedures, Hearings, and trainings. 2014 Board's and Commission outreach for trainings was directed. In effort to maintain public trust through quality assurance measures, additional staffing needs were discussed in anticipation of future work-load including 1) Complaints, 2) FOIL requests 3) Advisory Opinions 4) Financial Disclosure review, 5) Hearings, 6) Investigations, 7) Lobbyist Laws, 8) Training.

Executive Director Report: Samantha Segal reported on IT Security, Poster Distribution, FDS Department Head reminder, Hearing Officer interviews, Space Committee paperwork, no appeals were filed from hearings conducted re: 2013 Financial Disclosures, conflicts checks under NYS Attorney Discipline Rules for tribunal conduct.

Executive Session: At 9:50 a.m. a motion was made by Dennis O'Doherty, seconded by Richard Halverson to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing ongoing confidential matters pertaining to one Advisory Opinion, one Standing Vote, one second level FDS review, one post-employment review, one FDS update, and one Board Investigation in accordance with the Suffolk County Administrative Code §A30-8 and the New York State Open Meetings Law. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (5-0-0).

During Executive Session: The Board voted on AO-2014-4 (5-0-0). The Board voted standing on AO 2014-5 (5-0-0). The Board continued fact finding on Board Investigation 001-2014 (Robin Long exited room (Recusal Number RL012014(4))).

10:55 a.m. a motion was made by Linda Spahr, seconded by Richard Halverson to close Executive Session. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (5-0-0).

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10:56 a.m. a motion was made Robin Long, seconded by Linda Spahr to adopt the Board referral procedures of Board imposed outstanding FDS hearing fines to the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (5-0-0).

11:00 a.m. Heather Palmore left meeting

11:40 am. The Board finalized their review of Investigation Procedures. A motion was made, Linda Spahr, seconded by Robin Long, to adopt the Board Investigation Procedures. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (4-0-0).

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Dennis O'Doherty, seconded by Richard Halverson to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (4-0-0) (11:50am).