

TOWN OF EAST GREENBUSH BOARD OF ETHICS

TOWN HALL, 225 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE, RENSSELAER, NY 12144

BOARD OF ETHICS MEETING MINUTES October 16, 2018

Call to Order/Determination of Quorum

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kathleen Luria at 7:00 PM

Board Members:

Kathleen Luria	Present
Mary Boisvert	Present
Roger Johnson	Present
Jessica Lansing	Present
Cheryl Vallee	Present
Joseph Slater	Present, Attorney for the Ethics Board,

Pledge of Allegiance

New Board Member/Alternate

Alternate BOE - Mr. Lee Cookson

Town Board Counsel Member/BOE Liaison - Mr. Guy Warner

Reading of Minutes

BOE Secretary Mary Boisvert read the June 26, 2018 meeting minutes. All members voted (5-0) in favor of accepting as read, no additions, deletions or editing is needed.

Old Business

Chairperson Luria opened the discussion with the status of the ethics training. She reports that town employees have been trained. Town Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Ethics and Board of Assessment Review have not been trained to date. She informed the board that Scott Fein has provided his services to train staff and the Boards pro bono. His only request was to have the ethics training to the all the Boards done in a public forum. Supervisor Conway committed to Mr. Fein that he would schedule the training. Mr. Fein reached out to Chairperson Luria and asked when the training would be scheduled and provided dates he and his team were available. She sent several emails to Supervisor Conway requesting the dates which remained unanswered.

Chairperson Luria expressed her frustration with the lack of communication from Supervisor Conway. Mr. Fein has provided not only his services but training materials to the town and she is dismayed the town has not complied with his request. She feels the ethics training of the Boards is even more important than town staff as they are the bodies which make the decisions that have the most impact on the residents.

The entire BOE agreed with her assessment.

New Business

Mrs. Luria will email Supervisor Conway again to encourage this training.

This will be the last scheduled BOE meeting in 2018. Her hopes are to see this training come to fruition, as this December 31, 2018 will be the end of her term as a member of the BOE. She will compile a list of BOE activities for the year to assist the new Chair of the BOE to prepare the BOE Annual Report which is due in February. She will also hand over any BOE documents in her possession to the Town Clerk.

Board Comments

BOE member Mary Boisvert requested a brief verbal review of the current Ethics Law as it pertains to elections, for prohibitive activity. *L.L. No.3- 2016 section 16- Political Activity and Solicitations*. This review was verbally acknowledged and accepted as understood, by all in attendance. No further discussion ensued.

Public Comments

Mr. Cookson publically acknowledged his thanks to Chairperson Luria for clarifying his prior concern regarding receiving notification for scheduled BOE meetings. He also inquired whether the Board of Assessment and Review would also have ethics training. Chairperson Luria indicated yes, as all Boards are to participate in ethics training.

Call to Adjourn

Chairperson Luria made a motion to adjourn meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted

Mrs. Mary Boisvert
BOE Secretary