

Town of Red Hook Ethics Board Minutes

Friday, July 17, 2009

Attendance: Fred Cartier, Susan Goldstein, Gail Nussbaum and Linda Keeling, Susan Simons

Guest: Councilman Harry Colgan, liaison to the Town Board, and Christine Chale, Attorney for the Town

Location: Town Hall, Conference Room

Correspondence: None

Purpose: To discuss various topics:

1. Introduction of newest member to the Board: Susan Simon
2. Review procedures
3. Any other issues

Correspondence: none

Call to Order: Chairman Fred Cartier called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

Chairman Cartier introduced and welcomed Susan Simon as a member of the Board of Ethics for the Town of Red Hook.

The minutes of last month's, June 19, 2009 meeting: in that they were emailed to the members yesterday afternoon, and Susan Simon didn't receive her copy until just before this meeting, the Chairman moved that we put off any consideration of the minutes until next month. Seconded by Susan Goldstein, passed.

In the attached document "Operating Rules and Procedures" adopted on March 20, 2009, Linda Keeling emailed the Chairmen that this was the first time she saw the document. Even though the document is not mentioned in the minutes of March 20, 2009 the chairman clearly remembers that it was brought up, distributed and passed by the Board. An email from Christine Chale, who is on vacation, clearly remembers that she presented the document and that the Board passed it. The chairman suggested that we vote on it again. Linda Keeling said that she had questions concerning the document. The chairman then suggested we table the document until the next meeting when Christine Chale will be attendance. There were no objections.

The Chairman mentioned that he had received an email, July 11, 2009 from Linda Keeling with some issues she wanted to have considered. The chairman answered:

Town of Red Hook Ethics Board Minutes
Friday, July 17, 2009

1. Position of the new secretary- We (The Town and the Board) have been turned down by two individuals for personal reasons and will continue looking for someone to fulfill the position.
2. "Operating rules and Procedures" document, has already been mentioned.
3. Susan Simon's email address has been distributed.
4. A comment that there was no "written directive" in the emails mailed to the Board with attachments.
5. Suggestion that the Board members should have emails using the Town's address. There is no requirement on members; it is up to the members if they want to.
6. Change meeting time. She has been asked by several members of the Task Force who would like us to change our time of meeting since conflicts with their weekly meetings, by changing our time this would enable them to attend our meeting. No one on the Task Force has mentioned this to the chairman. The chairman suggested that they change their time of meeting, if they wanted to attend our meetings.

The Chairman pointed out the procedures for handling "complaints" to the Board is found in Section F of our Ethics Code. Linda mentioned that she was interested in the questions of how the hearings are to be conducted.

The Chairman asked for further comments or questions, hearing none the meeting was adjourned on motion by Gail Nussbaum and seconded by Susan Simon, passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22am.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 21, 8am and the purpose will be to discuss the "Operating Rues and Procedures" as presented by Christine in March.

Respectfully submitted.

Fred Cartier, Chairman