

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF ETHICS
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 15, 2019**

ATTENDANCE: Michael Church, Chair; Kara Murphy, Miklos Koleszar, Haroldo Williams, Lori Torrano (7:17 p.m.)

STAFF: Brian Candela, Corporate Counsel

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Church called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Church called the roll. A quorum was present.

NEW INTRODUCTIONS

There were no new introductions to make at this time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no one from the public present.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES.

May 25, 2019

The following corrections were noted:

Page 1, under **Review Code of Ethics and the Citizen's Guide to Norwalk's Code of Ethics and discuss potential changes to both**, paragraph 1, line 3: please change the following from: "had confidentially concerns" to "had confidentiality concerns"

Page 3, paragraph 11, line 2: please change the following from "was no probably cause" to "was no probable cause"

Page 3, paragraph 11, line 3: please change the following from "the dismal will not" to "the dismissal will not"

**** MR. KOLESZAR MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 25, 2019 AS CORRECTED.**

**** MS. MURPHY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 25, 2019 AS CORRECTED PASSED WITH FOUR (4) IN FAVOR (CHURCH, KOLESZAR, AND MURPHY) AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION, (WILLIAMS).**

OLD BUSINESS

Review Code of Ethics and the Citizen's Guide to Norwalk's Code of Ethics and discuss potential changes to both documents.

The Commission discussed §32-3 of the Ethics Code. Atty. Candela reported that in the June the Ordinance Committee, the Council Members wanted him to analyze what other towns had done in terms of "Financial Benefits". He listed the towns of Bethel, Bridgeport and Bristol which were the ones the Ordinance Committee members felt would be helpful. Ordinance Committee Member Corsello felt that the original language was too narrow.

Atty. Candela then presented some proposed language he had created for the Commission to review.

Ms. Torrano joined the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Mr. Koleszar asked Atty. Candela where he obtained the documentations from the other towns. Atty. Candela said that the State of Connecticut has a website where many of the municipalities upload their documents.

The Commission members then reviewed the proposed language. Discussion followed.

**** MR. KOLESZAR MOVED TO APPROVE THE DEFINITION OF "FINANCIAL BENEFIT" ON §32-3 AS PRESENTED BY ATTY. CANDELA.**

**** MS. MURPHY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The discussion then moved to §32-11 regarding former Commissioners having a one year moratorium on appearing before their former Board following the end of their service. Atty. Candela said that the Ordinance Committee had concerns because there were no consequences if someone violated the Code of Ethics. Discussion followed.

**** MS. TORRANO MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDED LANGUAGE FOR §32-11(A) AS DISCUSSED.**

**** MS. MURPHY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. KOLESZAR MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDED LANGUAGE FOR §32-11(B) AS DISCUSSED.**
**** MS. TORRANO SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Atty. Candela then updated the Commissioners on the current status of the previous changes to the Code.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**** MR. CHURCH MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL ISSUES.**
**** MR. WILLIAMS SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commissioners and Atty. Candela entered into Executive Session at 8:02 p.m. in order to discuss personnel issues. They returned to Public Session at 8:15 p.m. No actions were taken or motions made during Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. KOLESZAR MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
**** MS. MURPHY SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services