

ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

DATE: June 11, 2024

TIME: 6:00 PM

PLACE: Ulster County Human Services Complex
100 Development Court, Building #2, Suite 400
(Veterans Agency Entrance)
Kingston, New York

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Nuzzo, Acting Chair
Stephanie Ellis
Deborah Schneer
Paul Tully
Brigid Walsh
Anne Zahradnik

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS ATTENDING: March Gallagher, UC Comptroller
Judy Riley, Secretary to the Board of Ethics

The Meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by Robert Nuzzo, Acting Chair.

Introduction of the new Board Member Brigid Walsh.

The Chair asked if anyone had any revisions to the minutes from the May 6, 2024 meeting. No discussion. Motion to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2024 Board of Ethics Meeting, Deborah Schneer 1st, Anne Zahradnik 2nd, unanimously approved.

Ulster County Comptroller March Gallagher addressed the Board with regard to her complaint. She then exited the meeting at 6:18pm.

Old Business:

Judy gave an update regarding the 2022 Financial Disclosure Forms – all forms are in. All the elected officials' forms are now on the website and all forms have been scanned and will be sent to the Comptroller in the next day or two.

New Business:

Review of Complaint (C-2024-004) – Robert Nuzzo recused himself from the matter.

6:19pm Motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss the complaint (C-2024-004) received by the Board, Deborah Schneer 1st, Anne Zahradnik 2nd, unanimously approved

7:02pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Deborah Schneer 1st, Anne Zahradnik 2nd, unanimously approved.

Motion was made: After consideration of the Complaint (C-2024-004) filed by the Ulster County Comptroller on June 10, 2024, the Board of Ethics finds that there is probable reason to believe that there has been a violation of the Ethics Law §44-5 (B)(1) by the subject and moved to proceed to move forward with Complaint, Brigid Walsh 1st, Deb Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved. (Bob Nuzzo abstained).

Review of Complaint (C-2024-002) – Robert Nuzzo recused himself from the matter.

7:03pm Motion was made to go into Executive Session to discuss the complaint (C-2024-002) received by the Board, Anne Zahradnik 1st, Brigid Walsh 2nd, unanimously approved.

7:33pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Anne Zahradnik 1st, Deborah Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved.

Motion: Upon review of the complaint (C-2024-002) and materials presented, the Board determined that there is no violation of the Ulster County Ethics Law, Deborah Schneer 1st, Anne Zahradnik 2nd, unanimously approved. (Bob Nuzzo abstained).

Review of Request for Advisory Opinion (A-2024-004) – Anne Zahradnik recused herself from the matter.

7:38pm Motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Request for Advisory Opinion (A-2024-004) received by the Board, Robert Nuzzo 1st, Deborah Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved.

7:44pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Robert Nuzzo 1st, Stephanie Ellis 2nd, unanimously approved.

Motion: Upon review of the Request for Advisory Opinion (A-2024-004), the Board of Ethics determined that there is no conflict of interest, Brigid Walsh 1st, Deborah Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved. (Anne Zahradnik abstained).

Review of Request for Advisory Opinion (A-2024-005)

7:45pm Motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Request for Advisory Opinion (A-2024-005) received by the Board, Anne Zahradnik 1st, Stephanie Ellis 2nd, unanimously approved.

7:47pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Anne Zahradnik 1st, Deborah Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved.

Motion: Upon review of the Request for Advisory Opinion (A-2024-005), the Board determined that there is no conflict of interest, as long as the grant applications do not compete with Ulster County and the work is completed on requestor's personal time as indicated in the request, Brigid Walsh 1st, Anne Zahradnik 2nd, unanimously approved.

Discussion regarding the 2023 Financial Disclosure forms, Judy should be obtaining them soon for the Board to review.

The Board gets to appoint a member to the Board of Ethics when all other vacancies are filled. Discussed Taane Pegg's resume to serve as their nominee to the Board of Ethics. Motion was made to nominate Taane Pegg as the Board's nominee to the Board of Ethics, Anne Zahradnik 1st, Deborah Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved. Robert Nuzzo will send an email to the County Executive with his resume.

The Board discussed future meetings – Stephanie Ellis suggested to have regularly scheduled meetings. The Board decided to meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm unless there are no matters to address. The next meeting July 9th at 6pm.

7:55pm Motion to adjourn meeting, Robert Nuzzo 1st, Deborah Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved.