

ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

DATE: December 20, 2022

TIME: 5:00 PM

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dylan Gallagher, Temporary Chair
Lara Kasper-Bukareff
Robert Nuzzo
Deborah Schneer
Dean McGee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS ATTENDING: Judy Riley, Secretary to the Board of Ethics
Joseph DiFalco, Citizen
Richard Williams, Esq, Assistant County Attorney

The Meeting was called to order at 5:04pm.

The Board voted in a temporary Chair for the meeting. Motion was made to appoint Dylan Gallagher as the temporary Chair for the meeting, Deborah Schneer 1st, Robert Nuzzo 2nd, unanimously approved. (Dylan G. abstained)

Motion was made to take up Mr. DiFalco's matter first and allow him to address the board, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Dean McGee 2nd, unanimously approved.

Mr. DiFalco addressed the board with regard to his complaints. He claims he never received anything in writing from the Board regarding a certain individual. He feels it has been too long and he has not received a response from the Board. Robert N. stated that this Board is doing the work and will address his complaints in executive session at this meeting. Deborah S. reminded him that this is a newly appointed Board and they are reviewing the complaints. Mr. DiFalco stated that the Ethics Board has the power to fine people and censure people with regard to conflicts of interest. Lara KB. stated that the Board planned to objectively review his complaints tonight. Mr. DiFalco exited the meeting at 5:17pm.

5:17pm Motion to Enter Executive Session regarding Mr. DiFalco's Complaints: Dylan Gallagher 1st, Robert Nuzzo 2nd, unanimously approved.

5:44pm Motion to Exit Executive Session Dylan Gallagher 1st, Deborah Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved.

Motion was made: As the result of the Board's discussion of Mr. DiFalco's January 10, 2022 complaint and the Ulster County Ethics Law in Executive Session, the Board determined that there were no conflicts of interest, the appearance of conflicts of interest, or violations of the Ulster County Ethics Law, and the complaint was dismissed. A letter will be drafted and sent to Mr. DiFalco. Dylan Gallagher 1st, Robert Nuzzo 2nd, unanimously approved.

Motion was made: As the result of the Board's discussion of Mr. DiFalco's August 24, 2021 complaint and the Ulster County Ethics Law in Executive Session, the Board determined that there were no conflicts of interest, the appearance of conflicts of interest, or violations of the Ulster County Ethics Law and the complaint was dismissed. A letter will be drafted and sent to Mr. DiFalco. Dylan Gallagher 1st, Robert Nuzzo 2nd, unanimously approved.

The Chair asked if anyone had any revisions to the minutes from the November 1, 2022 meeting. No discussion. Motion to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2022 Board of Ethics Meeting, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Lara Kasper-Bukareff 2nd, unanimously approved.

5:48pm Motion to Enter Executive Session to discuss possible nominations for appointment to the Board of Ethics per the Ethics Law. Dylan Gallagher 1st, Robert Nuzzo 2nd, unanimously approved.

5:52pm Motion to Exit Executive Session Dylan Gallagher 1st, Deborah Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved.

The Board returned to Old Business. 5:52 Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Complaint #2, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Robert Nuzzo 2nd, unanimously approved. (Lara Kasper-Bukareff abstained)

6:16pm Motion to Exit Executive Session Dylan Gallagher 1st, Dean McGee, unanimously approved. (Lara Kasper-Bukareff abstained)

Motion was made: As the result of the Board's review and discussion of the complaint and the Ulster County Ethics Law in Executive Session, the Board determined that there were no conflicts of interest, the appearance of conflicts of interest, or violations of the Ulster County Ethics Law, and the complaint was dismissed. However, if there is more information that the Complainant would like to bring to the attention of the Board they may do so. A letter will be drafted and sent. Dean McGee 1st, Dylan Gallagher 2nd, unanimously approved. (Lara Kasper-Bukareff abstained)

6:22pm Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Request for Advisory Opinion, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Robert Nuzzo 2nd, unanimously approved. (Lara Kasper-Bukareff abstained)

6:24pm Motion to Exit Executive Session Dylan Gallagher 1st, Dean McGee, unanimously approved. (Lara Kasper-Bukareff abstained)

Motion was made: As the result of the Board's review and discussion of the Request for Advisory Opinion and the Ulster County Ethics Law in Executive Session, the Board determined that there were no conflicts of interest or the appearance of conflict of interest that would preclude the individual from seeking part-time employment with a private or non-profit organization during non-County business hours. A letter will be drafted and sent. Dean McGee 1st, Dylan Gallagher 2nd, unanimously approved. (Lara Kasper-Bukareff abstained)

6:26pm Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Complaints from an individual that were forwarded from the Town of Gardiner, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Deborah Schmeer 2nd, unanimously approved.

6:50pm Motion to Exit Executive Session Dylan Gallagher 1st, Dean McGee, unanimously approved.

Motion was made: to review the complaints further and discuss at the Board's next meeting, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Dean McGee 2nd, Unanimously approved.

The Board discussed New Business. 6:54pm Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Request for Advisory Opinion, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Robert Nuzzo 2nd, unanimously approved.

7:28pm Motion to Exit Executive Session Dylan Gallagher 1st, Dean McGee, unanimously approved.

Motion was made: to table the Request for Advisory Opinion in order to review and discuss it further at the Board's next meeting, Lara Kasper-Bukareff 1st, Dylan Gallagher 2nd, Unanimously approved.

The Board discussed meeting in January.

7:35pm Motion to adjourn meeting, Dean McGee 1st, Dylan Gallagher 2nd, unanimously approved.