

CITY OF STAMFORD  
Board of Ethics  
Stamford Government Center  
(Meeting held virtually via Zoom)  
March 17, 2021  
***Draft Minutes***

**Present Members:**

Allan Lang, Chair  
Thomas Hynes, Vice-Chair  
Myrna Sessa, Member  
Monica Smyth, Member  
Christine Dzujna, Member  
Benjamin Folkinshteyn, Member  
Fred Springer, Alternate  
Kevin Quinn, Alternate

**Other:**

Steven Conover, Counsel  
Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources Processing Technician  
Elena Kalman

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lang at 7:02 p.m.

1. Mr. Springer moved to accept the minutes of the November 18, 2020 Meeting of the Board of Ethics (“BOE”), seconded by Ms. Dzujna, unanimously passed.
2. Mr. Lang addressed the request for an advisory opinion from Ms. Elena Kalman, who appeared before the BOE seeking guidance on the potential for a conflict between her service on the Historic Preservation Advisory Board (“HPAC”), and professional architectural services she may provide to clients who appear before HPAC. Presently, her services are being sought by a client to perform work on property he owns and for which he previously consulted with HPAC on development plans.

Since Ms. Kalman has regularly recused herself from HPAC meetings or discussions involving projects where she has been retained to perform architectural work, the BOE members agreed that her approach in recusing herself continues to be the appropriate corrective action in avoiding a conflict of interest and that she need not take any additional steps.

Ms. Kalman requested a written opinion.

3. Mr. Hynes moved to amend the agenda to add an item seeking authorization from the BOE to sign a retainer from attorney Dan Young in the Figueroa investigative matter. Mr. Springer seconded, all others in favor. Motion passed.

The BOE discussed why Mr. Hynes would need to sign the retainer letter since the City Counsel's office has already done so. Mr. Conover advised that the best approach may be to simply acknowledge receipt of the retainer. Chair Lang moved that the BOE authorize Mr. Hynes, on behalf of the investigating board, to acknowledge receipt of the retainer letter. Ms. Dzujna seconded, Mr. Springer opposed, all others in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Hynes moved, on behalf of the investigating board, to extend by 30 days (commencing 60 days from the March date Chair Lang received the investigating board's report) the time within which to commence a public hearing on the Figueroa matter. This will allow the board to retain counsel and for counsel to prepare its presentation for the hearing. Chair Lang seconded the motion for an extension, Mr. Springer abstained, all others in favor. Motion passed.

4. Mr. Springer moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Folkinshteyn seconded, all others in favor. At 7:58 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Dzujna, Secretary