

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF ETHICS
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 22, 2020**

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Michael Church, Chair; Tony Lopez;
Kara Murphy, Heraldo Williams (7:20 p.m); Nora Niedzielski-
Eichner

STAFF: Brian Candela, Corporation Counsel

ROLL CALL

Mr. Church called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

NEW INTRODUCTION

There was no introduction.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nobody from the public was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: August 27, 2020

**** MS. NIEDZIELSKI-EICHNER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.
** MR. LOPEZ SECONDED.
** THE MOTION WAS APPROVED 3-0 WITH ONE ABSTENTION (MS.
MURPHY).**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no one from the public present who wished to participate at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Review Code of Ethics 32-4

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

Mr. Church talked about the most recent Ordinance Committee meeting. He said the Ordinance Committee had a little more revising to do. He said they felt the Board of Ethics should look at it one more time and let the Ordinance Committee know.

Mr. Church asked the Board to take another look at 32-4. Conflict of Interest is 32-4 A(1) and 32-4 A(2). Ms. Niedzielki-Eichner said she would say a Conflict of Interest *includes any of the following* instead of arises. She said she was a bit concerned about a direct or indirect personal interest. Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner said the language seemed a bit too broad. Mr. Candela said the Board would have to separate a personal interest from a financial interest. She said another area of clarification needed is the issue of importance in 1c.

Mr. Church said if we make these changes it opens us up to being too specific or not being specific enough.

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner said she feels personal could be seen as too broad. Mr. Candela said it would not have to do with your job it would be a business interest outside of your job.

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner said she could not remember a1 being as general as it is now.

Ms. Murphy said when you start getting into financial conflicts and the personal conflicts she said Mr. Livingston is probably reading the two sections together. She said we have to make sure the two sections do not conflict.

Mr. Church said the Ordinance Committee will have the final say. He said his recommendation be we wait for their final word and then the Board can critique it. He explained it was not worth spending 20-30 minutes redoing it at this time.

Ms. Murphy said there is a gap between 32-4c and 32-8c. She said a year ago the Ordinance Committee were very concerned about 32-8c. Mr. Candela said Mr. Livingston and Ms. Lisa Shanahan spearheaded the changes to 32-4.

Mr. Church said the Board can give their thoughts to Mr. Livingston so they can look at it before their next meeting.

Mr. Lopez asked that Mr. Candela get the draft language from the Ordinance Committee to the Board of Ethics as soon as possible before their next meeting. Mr. Church said most likely the Board of Ethics will not meet again until January unless they convene a special meeting in December.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. WILLIAMS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN.**

**** MS. MURPHY SECONDED.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Telesco Secretarial Services

G. Venuto