



## ***Ethics Board for the Town of New Paltz***

Meeting Minutes  
Monday, December 4th, 2015

### **Call to order**

- **Mary Woodburn** called to order the public meeting of the **Ethics Board** at 17:31 on Friday, December 4th, 2015.
- Meeting was held at the Town of New Paltz Community Center.

### **Roll call**

- **Mary Woodburn, Kelly O'Donnell, Therese Sibon, Philipe Robbins**
- **Public Comment**  
No comment(s)

### **Approval of minutes from last meeting**

The minutes from the November 16th, 2015 were amended accepted by quorum.

### **Agenda:**

- Unfinished Business:  
Ethics Inquiry, Zimet: Updates & Discussion.
- New Business:  
Clarification of Advisory Opinion Delivery  
FDS : 2016

### **Minutes:**

- Mary brought up the discussion re: Ethics Inquiry, Mrs. Susan Zimet. The boards determination was that Susan Zimet serves as a Regional Chair for the WEP and not an Officer of the WEP.
- The initial inquiry that was brought before us did not have enough information for us to provide advisory comments. It was necessary for us to conduct further research to acquire this information. According to the documents filed with the Board of Elections, she does not hold an office, as per the definition in our Ethics Laws of "office in a political party, club or association, society or committee". She was elected by the officers to serve as the regional chair for the Hudson Valley Region, serving as a member of the interim state committee. She was not one of the three officers listed on the official WEP papers sent to us. QUOTE 15.15C
- Kelly made recommendation: Our next mandatory meeting, we should have it in our agenda a discussion as to how ethics complaints are formatted. "Is the information complete enough for us to render advisory comments and if not where does the onus fall for the required research and information gathering.
- Mary will reply to Kitty Brown's letter to please contact the Town Clerk regarding Mr. Kevin Barry. quote the ethics laws 15-18H1D.
- Phil inquired about the new member search: On hold until new 2016 Town Board is in place.

- The board discussed our "advisory opinion purpose". We will draft a letter clarifying to the town board that our board is strictly "advisory and not investigative" Where does our responsibility begin and where does it end? This discussion and drafting of a letter will commence in our January Mandatory meeting.

**Next Meeting:** Friday, January 29th, 2016 at 5:30 P.M.

**Adjournment:** Mary Woodburn adjourned the meeting at 18:33 PM.

**Minutes Submitted:** Philipe Robbins

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