

Suffolk County Board of Ethics
Suffolk County, New York

Minutes of Meeting Held on
September 11, 2013
Office of the Board of Ethics
335 Yaphank Avenue, Yaphank, New York 11980

Meeting: *Board Members present:* Robin Long, Richard Halverson, and Linda Spahr. Heather Palmore arrived at 6:15 p.m. *Staff present:* Samantha Segal, Executive Director and Darlene Kurrass, taking minutes.

Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair, Robin Long. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

Adoption of Agenda: At 6:00 p.m. a motion was made by Linda Spahr, seconded by Richard Halverson, to adopt the agenda. Upon a vote being taken motion was approved. (3-0-0)

Adoption of Minutes: At 6:01 p.m. a motion was made by Richard Halverson, seconded by Linda Spahr, to adopt the minutes of the August 14, 2013 meeting. Upon a vote being taken motion was approved. (3-0-0)

Public Session: At 6:04 p.m. Robin Long opened Public Session. No members of the public were present and no written testimony was submitted. At 6:04 p.m. Robin Long closed public session.

Chair Report: Robin Long took a moment to acknowledge September 11th and all the first responders, as well as the loss of the U.S. Ambassador last year. In response, the Board took a moment of silence in remembrance of the events of 9/11.

Robin Long then acknowledged the following:

- The resignation of Thomas Isles.
 - Robin Long read the letter of resignation submitted by Thomas Isles to the Presiding Officer of the Legislature, his appointing authority, which was also sent to the Chair of the Board and the Executive Director. The letter read, "I am resigning from the Suffolk County Board of Ethics effective September 6, 2013. I am taking this action due to the addition of other commitments that will prevent me from fully serving the needs of the Board." In closing he thanked Presiding Officer Lindsay for his nomination and support of the Board's work during its critical formative period. Ms. Long and the Board thank Mr. Isles for his time and dedication.
- The Passing of Presiding Officer of the Legislature, Honorable William J. Lindsay.
 - With a heavy heart Robin Long acknowledged the passing of Honorable William J. Lindsay, the Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature. Mr. Lindsay was a great supporter of the Board who offered his encouragement and sponsorship during the formation of the Board and continued to show his support throughout the Board's development. He will be sorely missed.
- The Passing of Hazel Brandon-Palmore.
 - Robin Long and the Board extended their condolences to fellow Board Member Heather Palmore for the passing of her mother, Ms. Hazel Brandon-Palmore.

At the close of acknowledgements, Robin Long opened a discussion of the Law Department Training Lecture conducted on Monday, September 9, 2013 held at the Law Department's Facility in Hauppauge. Robin Long stated that the training went very well and that Samantha Segal, the Executive Director, and John Gross, the Board's Independent Training Consultant and Legal Counsel, did a great job. Linda Spahr, also present at the training lecture, gave additional feedback.

Heather Palmore arrived at 6:15 p.m.

Executive Director Report: Samantha Segal, Executive Director, discussed the following with the Board:

- The Law Department Training Lecture: Samantha Segal Informed the Board that the feedback from the attendees was very good, the only thing they felt was "poor" or "fair" was the facility, which was their own.
- Civil Service New Employee Orientation: A diverse group of thirty new employees were in attendance including 12 assistant district attorneys and 12 crossing guards. By the end of the year the Board of Ethics will have conducted in-person trainings for over 200 public servants.

The Board reviewed the final format of the Notice of Violation.

At 6:44 p.m. a motion was made by Heather Palmore, seconded by Linda Spahr to approve the Notice of Violation as amended. Upon a vote being taken motion was approved. (4-0-0)

The Board approved a "Certificate of Completion" to be presented to attendees of the Legislative Training Lectures to be held next week.

At 6:53 p.m. a motion was made by Robin Long, seconded by Linda Spahr to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing confidential matters pertaining Financial Disclosure Statement privacy requests, Financial Disclosure Statement Extension Applications and a letter addressed to the Board pursuant to §105 (A), (D) and (F) of the New York State Open Meetings Law. Upon a vote being taken motion was approved. (4-0-0)

During Executive Session, the Board voted on:

- Extension Application 001-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 002-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 003-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 004-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 005-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 006-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 007-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 008-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 009-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 010-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 011-2013 (4-0-0)
- Extension Application 012-2013 (4-0-0)

made a final determination of the Privacy Requests of:

- FDS# 32
- FDS# 43
- FDS# 60
- FDS# 107
- FDS# 127
- FDS# 240
- FDS# 253
- FDS# 308
- FDS# 365
- FDS# 379
- FDS# 425
- FDS# 430
- FDS# 434
- FDS# 449
- FDS# 457
- FDS#156
- FDS# 168
- FDS# 174
- FDS# 220
- FDS# 234
- FDS# 235
- FDS# 381
- FDS# 406
- FDS# 407
- FDS# 408
- FDS# 414
- FDS# 423
- FDS# 487
- FDS# 488
- FDS# 516

- FDS# 520,

and made a final determination on motion by Robin Long, seconded by Linda Spahr (4-0-0): Provide second letter to all persons who filed designating petitions with the Board of Elections who have not provided the Suffolk County Board of Ethics with a 2013 Financial Disclosure Statement. Content of letter: Suffolk County Board of Ethics Resolution 10-2013 (fine schedule) and upcoming Board Agenda on matter.

At 8:07 p.m. a motion was made by Robin Long, seconded by Linda Spahr to leave Executive Session. Upon a vote being taken motion was approved. (4-0-0)

New Business: Linda Spahr suggested a provision to the Suffolk County “Whistle Blower Law” be added to the list of legislative topics. The Board also agreed to wait for a fully constituted Board before electing a new Vice Chair.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on September 25, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Heather Palmore left the room.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Linda Spahr, seconded by Richard Halverson to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote being taken the motion was approved. (3-0-0) (8:16 p.m.)