

Durham Ethics Commission **DRAFT Meeting Minutes, January 28, 2009**

I. Meeting was called to order by Bob Fulton, Chairman, at 7:05 p.m. and the roll was called. **Present:** Commission members: Bob Fulton, Ellen Piotrowski, Joe Pasquale. **Absent:** David Adams, Kathleen McTigue and alternates Sue Behling, Pat Kupcho and Bruce Chaplin.

II. Agenda was accepted unanimously (as attached) on motion made by Joe Pasquale seconded by Ellen Piotrowski.

III. Minutes from December 15 were unanimously accepted, on a motion made by Ellen Piotrowski and seconded by Joe Pasquale (attached). Bob had one clarification related to item VI meeting dates for 2009. The dates listed should be for the full year. See revised meeting schedule below under section VII.

IV. Public comments – no members of the public were present.

V. Commission Budget for Fiscal 2009-2010:

Bob reported that the budget forms had been completed and turned into the Town by the 1/6/09 deadline asking for the \$5,000.00 as approved at the last meeting. The amount that the Board of Selectmen (BOS) approved at the 1/8/09 town meeting was \$500.00. Since there has been no history with this commission the BOS decided that any actions the commission needed to take involving legal fees or certified mailing fees would come from the Town's one contingency fund as is normal practice.

VI. Discussion of the Durham Code of Ethics:

Bob presented draft copies of the compiled Code of Ethics for the commission to review. Spelling and grammatical corrections had been made previously. The process now is to review for content and continuity. Minor changes to several sections were made to clean up language. Several questions arose around the definitions of gift and what was included and excluded, what immediate family meant (define this in the definitions section). Ellen Piotrowski will review other towns to see if clarification can be gained.

Another area of discussion centered around the section titled III. Conflict of Interest. There was some duplication of words between sections A and F. It was decided to review and re-write section A and eliminate section F.

Finally, Bob Fulton stated that a review of sections 5 through 7 for continuity should be done. He volunteered to handle that process.

VII. Meeting schedule: The meeting schedule for 2009 was established as follows: January 19 (met on January 28 due to MLK holiday), February 23, March 23, April 27, May 18, June 22, July 27, August 24, September 28, October 16, November 23, December 28. Meetings will be at 7:00pm at the Durham Library.

VIII. Old business: No old business.

IX. New Business: Bob reported that at a BOS meeting held on January 14, 2009 the BOS asked for a presentation of each commissions activites. Bob was questioned on the time frame remaining to complete the Town's Code of Ethics.

X. Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 on a motion made by Joe Pasquale, seconded by Bob Fulton and passed unanimously.

DURHAM ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING
7:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2009
LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM
DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

AGENDA

1. Call to order and roll call
2. Approval of the agenda
3. Approval of Ethics Commission meeting minutes of December 15, 2008
4. Public comment
5. Discussion of the Durham Code of Ethics
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Adjourn