

Durham Ethics Commission **DRAFT Meeting Minutes, February 23, 2009**

I. Meeting was called to order by Bob Fulton, Chairman, at 7:10 p.m. and the roll was called. **Present:** Commission members: Bob Fulton, Ellen Piotrowski, Joe Pasquale, Kathleen McTigue. **Absent:** David Adams and alternates Sue Behling, Pat Kupcho and Bruce Chaplin.

Bob Fulton told Commission members that Alternate Sue Behling has resigned, effective immediately; Bob will express the appreciation of other Commission members for past service and inform the Board of Selectmen.

II. Agenda was accepted unanimously (as attached) on motion made by Kathleen McTigue, seconded by Ellen Piotrowski.

III. Minutes from January 28 will be approved at the next Commission meeting.

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

V. Discussion of the Durham Code of Ethics: Bob Fulton sent out the complete draft Code of Ethics in advance, with highlights of revisions recommended at the prior meeting and an attempt to standardize language.

Of particular concern in our discussion was the opinion of counsel Duncan Forsyth that the language of both the draft Code and the original Ordinance establishing the Commission was too broad because it names and includes persons beyond those directly serving as officers, officials and employees of the Town of Durham.

A second discussion revolved around concern that if the Ethics Commission is expected to issue advisory opinions, this task might become more time-consuming than is possible to fulfill without staff. We agreed to consider whether or not advisory opinions requested of the Commission should be binding or nonbinding. Bob Fulton has agreed to rework this section for the next meeting.

Bob Fulton reworked sections 6 and 7 from the versions originally drafted by Joe Pasquale. Members requested more time to compare the sections and reconsider at our next meeting.

VI. Review of counsel's opinions: Bob Fulton brought our accumulated questions to counsel Duncan Forsyth. We reviewed the answers and discussed how they would be incorporated into the Code. Further discussion of counsel's opinion was reserved for our next Commission meeting. **Next meeting: March 23, 7:00pm.**

VII. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Joe Pasquale and seconded by Ellen Pyotrowski, unanimously approved.

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.

DURHAM ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING
7:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009
ACTIVITY 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 January 28, 2009
4. Public comment
5. Discussion of the Durham Code of Ethics
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Adjourn