

Minutes

Board of Ethics Special Meeting

Via Zoom

March 29th, 2023, 6:00pm

Members in attendance were:

Vivian Hardison, Ben Lehberger, Mark Peyser, Craig Sternberg, and Emma Montoya

Pursuant to the Agenda, the following items were taken up:

1. The Board of Ethics meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by co-chair Ben Lehberger.
2. Minutes were reviewed. An amendment was made in line item #8 to correct the meeting day to Wednesday, March 29, 2023, instead of Monday. Motion was made by Mark Peyser to approve the minutes to include the above referenced amendment of the meeting day change and second by Craig Sternberg. Vote was unanimous. Minutes were approved.
3. Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.
4. New Business
 - a. The Board of Ethics will review ethics ordinance to address possible revisions. The board will seek collaboration and/or advice with an ethics expert, preferably, an attorney, (and possibly Ms. S. Lefrak) to review the current ethics ordinance for the Town of Easton. Mark Peyser will follow up on this matter. Co-chair Vivian Hardison will attend the next Board of Selectmen meeting to provide an update.
 - b. According to co-chair Vivian Hardison, the town clerk, updated the format of the Ethics Complaint form on the town website to a writable format to make its use easier.
5. With no other business to address, co-chair Ben Lehberger requested a motion to move into executive session. Vivian Hardison made a motion to move into Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Mark Peyser. Vote was unanimous. At 6:14pm the Executive Session started.
6. Co-chair Ben Lehberger requested a motion to move out of the Executive Session. Mark Peyser made the motion and it was seconded by Vivian Hardison. The Executive Session ended at 7:13pm.
7. Action taken: The Board voted to find Raymond Martin in violation of the Ethics Ordinance. Findings and recommendations will be provided to the Board of Selectmen. A copy will also go to the respondent and the complainants.
8. At 7:16pm, motion was made by Mark Peyser and second by Emma Montoya to move back into another Executive Session to address a complaint on a different matter.
9. Co-chair Ben Lehberger requested a motion to move out of Executive Session. Vivian Hardison made a motion to move out of Executive Session and it was seconded by Mark Peyser. Vote was unanimous. The Executive Session ended at 7:26pm.

10. Action taken: Board of Ethics will request a one month extension to address a complaint on a different matter. Complainant will be invited to address the Board of Ethics at their next meeting.
11. Next meeting of the Board of Ethics is scheduled for Wednesday April 5, 2023, at 6:00pm.
12. Motion was requested by co-chair Vivian Hardison to adjourn the meeting. Craig Sternberg made the motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by co-chair Ben Lehberger. Vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.

Vivian Hardison

Vivian Hardison

Ben Lehberger

Ben Lehberger