

COLCHESTER ETHICS COMMISSION

April 2, 2019

Town Hall , Colchester, Connecticut

Meeting Minutes

Members present: Ursula Tschinkel, Dean Dest, Teresa Pineau, John Malsbenden and Betty Wagner
Guests: None.

1. Call to order. Chairman Ursula Tschinkel called the meeting to order at 600 p.m.

2. Additions to the Agenda. None

3. Approval of the Minutes of February 5, 2019. Motion by Mr. Malsbenden, second by Mr. Dest to accept the minutes with the date of tonight's meeting corrected to April 2, 2019.

Vote: Three yes. Two abstaining because they had not attended the February meeting.

4. Citizens Comments. None.

5. Review and Discussion of Colchester Ethics Ordinance. Chairman Tschinkel began the discussion with information regarding potential bills before the legislature that involve ethics. Following that, the commission began to review the Code of Ethics.

53.1. Statement of purpose. The commission will propose that it be shortened as follows: Public office is a public trust which must be based on honest and fair deliberations and decisions, which are free of threats, favoritism, undue influence and all forms of impropriety to maintain and increase the confidence of our citizens in the integrity and fairness of their government. The Town of Colchester Code of Ethics was enacted to ensure the public's trust in their government.

For 53.2. Definitions, the Commission will recommend the following:

BUSINESS. No changes are recommended at this time.

BUSINESS WITH WHICH HE/SHE IS ASSOCIATED. No changes are recommended at this time.

CODE. No changes are recommended at this time.

COMMISSION. No changes are recommended at this time.

COMPLAINT. No changes are recommended at this time.

COMPLAINANT. No changes are recommended at this time.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. The commission recommends adding "electronically" so the first sentence will read: Information, whether transmitted orally, in writing, **electronically** or by any other means...

FINANCIAL INTEREST. The Commission recommends that the amount be set at \$50.00.

GIFT. The Commission is not recommending any changes at this time, but will revisit this section at a later date.

IMMEDIATE FAMILY. No changes are recommended at this time.

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INDIVIDUAL. The Commission recommends that the words "A natural person" be replaced with "Any person."

INDIVIDUAL WITH WHOM ONE IS ASSOCIATED. The Commission recommends that the words "mutually has an interest" be changed to "has a mutual interest."

OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITY. The Commission will not recommend changes at this time, but will review on a future date.

PERSON. No changes are recommended at this time.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE. No changes are recommended at this time.

PUBLIC OFFICIAL. No changes are recommended at this time.

RESPONDENT. No changes are recommended at this time.

SPECIAL DISTRICT. No changes are recommended at this time.

6. Citizens Comments. None.

7. Adjournment. Motion Mr. Durst, Second by Ms. Pineau. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting will be June 4, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Wagner
Member