



Town of Shelburne, Vermont

CHARTERED 1763

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Shelburne Ethics Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2017

12:00 p.m.

Shelburne Town Offices, Meeting Room 2

APPROVE

Attendance: Committee Members Tom Little, Michael Ashoosh, Bill Deming, Alternate Pete Gadue and Clerk Diana Vachon

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm.

Committee Chair Lee Suskin is out of the country and therefore unable to attend. In his absence, Pete Gadue is sitting as a voting member of the Committee. Lee had asked that Tom serve as acting Chair. Bill Deming moved to elect Tom Little as acting Chair. The motion was seconded by Pete Gadue. All voted in favor of the motion.

No members of the public were present to offer any comments.

The acting Chair stated that the purpose of the meeting was to consider a complaint, filed with the Clerk of the Committee on February 2, 2017, alleging violations of the Town's Ethics and Conflict of Interest Ordinance.

In regards to the disclosure of any conflicts of interest or other matters requiring disclosure, Tom Little noted that because no mention of the facts of a complaint or of the identity of the complainant may be made in open session (and until probable cause has been determined), any disclosures will need to be made in executive session and, if any, then disclosed after that session has ended. Under the ordinance, all complaints are confidential unless probable cause is found during an executive session as specified under Article 16(d) of the Ethics and Conflict of Interest Ordinance.

Bill Deming moved that the Committee enter executive session under the provisions of Article 16(d) of the ordinance. Pete seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The Committee entered executive session at 12:10 pm.

The Committee left the executive session at 12:49 pm. No member made any conflict of interest or other disclosures.

Mike Ashoosh moved as follows: Based on the Committee's understanding that the complainant has withdrawn the complaint as described in the February 3, 2017 settlement agreement made public on February 3, 2017, the committee considers the pending matter, concerning the complaint filed on February 2, 2017, closed. The acting Chair is directed to confirm the withdrawal in writing with the complainant. Bill seconded the motion. The vote

in favor of the motion was unanimous. Upon confirmation by the Acting Chair of the withdrawal, the complaint file will be closed and sealed as required under Article 16(d) of the ordinance.

Under Other Business: Tom will share some suggested revisions to the Committee's Rules of Procedure at a future meeting. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2017, at 8:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 12:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Vachon, Clerk