

Town of Guilford  
**Board of Ethics**  
Meeting  
Minutes  
**March 9, 2017**

**Note: Please be advised that at this time the following are strictly "Draft Minutes" until approved by the Board of Ethics\***  
Once approved the minutes will be marked as "Approved Minutes" and will be available in the clerk's office or upon request.

**Member's Present:** Chairman Deborah Daddio, Anthony Fappiano, Ken Wilson and Barbara Hemming

Chairman Daddio called the meeting to order at: 4:40

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**Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes:**

Upon a motion by Commissioner Ken Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Fappiano, it is voted to approve the December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 minutes as submitted. Commissioner Hemming abstained.

**Update on Activity:**

Chairman Daddio attended a CCM training seminar on the Freedom of Information Act. One topic discussed was the limitations of what the Board can do to justify calling an executive session. She went on to list some examples including discussions of employment, matters of security, etc. Chairman Daddio noted that we cannot vote in an executive session and if the clerk is present the meeting is considered a Public Meeting. She reminded the board that conversations outside the meeting forum could be considered a meeting if a quorum is present.

**Old Business:** There was no old business to discuss.

**New Business:**

1. Social Media – Commissioner Hemming raised the disturbing issue of Facebook posts made by sitting members of Town Boards and Commissions which include comments and opinions about ongoing and past matters before them and could constitute ex parte communications. The board feels this behavior could potentially expose the Town to litigation. Commissioner Wilson and Chairman Daddio noted this subject had been discussed by the board before, but the Board would need to receive a signed written complaint in order to take further action.

Chairman Daddio suggested the town needs a centralized policy outlining acceptable practices for employees, board and commission members concerning the use of social media. The town should encourage continuing education as there are many opportunities for outreach, such as in forums for health and wellness coordinated by Human Resources. Commissioner Fappiano feels it's the responsibility of the Chairman of each board and

commission to control the meeting and set expectations for members. Commissioner Wilson noted that it could be useful to have an attorney address relevant commissions and explain what is expected of them both during a meeting and afterwards.

2. Commissioner Fappiano, a member of the Guilford Rotary Club, is nominating former Chairman Bud Benson to receive its annual Paul Harris Award. He feels Mr. Benson would be the perfect candidate for this honor given his selfless commitment to the community; he will contact MaryLou Benson accordingly. Additionally, the town awards Proclamations to deserving candidates; Chairman Daddio will contact the First Selectman to discuss. In honor of Bud Benson, the board has agreed to volunteer at the Guilford Food Bank for the upcoming May 13<sup>th</sup> food drive.

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With no further business before the board Commissioner Fappiano motioned and was seconded by Commissioner Wilson to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 pm, with unanimous approval.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Brewer  
Secretary