

**Law, Rules and Ethics Committee**  
**MINUTES**

March 26, 2015  
Riverdale Mental Health Association  
2nd floor, Conference Room

**Attendance:** Sylvia Alexander, Arlene Feldmeier, Rosemary Ginty, Demetrius McCord, Robert Press, Herb Young, Martin Wolpoff, Chair

Meeting called to order 7:15

1. Review of February Minutes  
There being no quorum present, chair asked if there were any comments relating to the minutes. There were none.
2. Review of Conflict Of Interest Board decisions  
Soliciting money/loan from supervisors, employees, parents of students in your class constitutes a crime, even if no funds were received.
3. Legislative Review
  - a. Appreciation again expressed to Rosemary Ginty for updating Legislative Review spreadsheet
  - b. Since it was the March update, Ms. Ginty took the liberty of highlighting new items in green,
  - c. Committee reviewed items relating to tree removal, truck routes/bike safety, countdown pedestrian signals at schools/parks and limiting the times of the day that restaurant health inspections should take place.
4. Chair announcements
  - a. The text of the Open Meetings Law is now available on the Board 8 website
  - b. Chair noted Steve Balicer and Skip Piscitelli have not applied for reappointment to the Board and are thus no longer Board/LRE members.
  - c. In spite of the above, there is no quorum tonight. Chair noted that he had spoken with Chairman Padernacht concerning LRE members who have exceeded the three consecutive meeting rule and sought approval for dropping them from LRE rolls. Chair plans to notify affected members tomorrow.
5. Review of bylaws revisions
  - a. At the last Executive meeting, the suggested revisions were discussed. There was a suggestion for some wording modification concerning community membership on committees. The copy distributed at the meeting included that modification, as well as a suggestion from Charles Moerdler with reference to the OML. The committee took the suggestions under advisement.
  - b. Suggested revisions will go back to Executive Committee and be placed on the agenda for the April Board meeting. If approved, the revisions need to be approved a second time at the May meeting before going into effect.
  - c. The issue of the future of a nominating committee was reviewed with COOG. Chairman sent a review of the correspondence to the Executive Committee and also asked to a review from COOG. Correspondence was shared with the committee. In that a nominating committee will be elected at the April meeting of the Board, it was suggested that LRE provide an outline of what is permitted.
    1. *The activities of the nominating committee should still be guided by the principals that Board 8 previously established*

- a) *A potential candidate for an officer position should not be on the nominating committee*
  - b) *Members of the nominating committee who seek to be candidates for chair positions, **should** (must) absent themselves from all interviews, discussions, **executive sessions** and votes concerning that position*
  - c) *Incumbent chairs have five day from the creation of the nominating committee to notify of their desire to vacate the position. Even though all officer and chair positions are considered vacant, the committee will then notify all board members of the incumbents' intent.*
2. *The actions of the nominating committee are subject to the OML: meeting notice must be given, the meeting is open to the public and minutes must be taken, including the recording of votes taken*
  3. *The nominating committee may go into executive session if it is to discuss the "medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular individual." It is recommended that, if interested, the committee establish a question schedule that includes such questions. If that is the case, a motion must be made to go into executive session and a recording of the votes on the motion be recorded. While in executive session, there are no minutes, votes or discussion relating to the selection of a slate. Such discussions and votes must be made in open session with minutes taken and votes recorded.*
  4. *The committee, while acknowledging the requirements of the OML, strongly recommends that, in the interest of fairness, if there are two or more candidates for any chair position, all individuals seeking nomination absent themselves from interviews of the competing candidates.*
- d. There was discussion on whether the committee should recommend reinstatement of a second vice-chair position. The item was tabled with the view that a survey of other boards be taken to assess and see if there was a potential folio of role and function for multiple vice chairs.
  - e. It was decided that the bylaws working group reconvene in the fall to evaluate the operations of the 2015 nominating committee and for consideration of an additional vice chair.
6. Old and New Business – there was none
  7. Meeting adjourned at 8:35

Next meeting – April 23

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Wolpoff

Chair

With addition notes submitted by Arlene Feldmeier