

**Community Board #8
Law, Rules and Ethics Committee
December 12, 2016**

Board Office

Attendance: Martin Wolpoff, Chair, Herb Young, Vice Chair, Sylvia Alexander, Rosemary Ginty, Irving Ladimer, Diego Santiago

Absent: Noah Friedman, Philip Friedman, Charles Moerdler

1. Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM
2. Matters arising from the minutes – It was noted that Diego Santiago was inadvertently omitted as absent. Minutes approved as amended
Approved: Sylvia Alexander, Rosemary Ginty, Irving Ladimer, Diego Santiago, Martin Wolpoff, Herb Young
3. Legislative Review
There was discussion concerning new intros brought to the City Council. Most discussion focused on items concerning proposed legislation in support of the ride share industry, e.g. Zip Cars. The intros sought to reserve street parking spots and a percentage of parking spots within City-owned properties. It was unknown if there would be any impact on parking associated with the New York City Housing Authority. The committee could not understand the deference to a profit-making enterprise when such deference has never been offered to other rent-a-cars.
4. Items from COIB
The committee discussed a recent Conflicts of Interest Board disposition concerning a Brooklyn community board member who chaired a committee dealing with an item concerning the City agency for which he was employee. The board member was fined.
5. Bylaws review
Over a period of several months there has been a request that the bylaws contain a section on “Penalties.” The committee felt that Article III Section 4 was sufficient. The only issue was to identify a working definition for :”good cause”*
6. Ethical Guidance Manual
 - a. The committee re-reviewed the item concerning honoraria as presented in the Ethical Guidance Manual (EGM). It was reaffirmed that the EGM was focused on board members. Thus, there would be no recommendation to change the verbiage.
 - b. A board member suggested a clarification on the verbiage concerning conflicts of interest. Thus, it was recommended that Article II, Section 1 be amended to add the phrase, “they may no vote on **any resolution for which they have a conflict.**”
 - c. A malapropism was found. Thus in Article V, Section 3 would be modified to correct the spelling.
7. Civics project
There has been no further information from the Kingsbridge library branch concerning an invitation to offer a presentation on civics.
8. Old business – None
9. New business – None

10. Meeting adjourned 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Wolpoff
Chair

- - Subsequent to the meeting, Ms. Ginty found the following from Corporation Council Opinion 39-84 concerning "Good Cause."

"...misconduct of a substantial nature, indicating some neglect of duty on the part of the community board member or something which materially affects his official acts or his standing or reflects upon his character."