

Transcript of the November 4, 2021

Meeting of the

New York City Loft Board

This transcript has been prepared pursuant to legislation S.50001/A.40001 signed by Governor Hochul, which suspended Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed.

The meeting began at: 2:09 P.M.

- 1 Chairperson Hylton: Good afternoon. My name is Renaldo Hylton, the Chairperson designee of the New
- 2 York City Loft Board. Welcome to our November 4th, 2021, public meeting. This meeting is being held
- 3 via teleconference in accordance with legislation signed by Governor Hochul on September 2nd, 2021,
- 4 due to the Coronavirus emergency.
- 5 Section 282 of the New York State Multiple Dwelling Law establishes the New York City Loft Board. The
- 6 Board is charged with overseeing the conversion of Interim Multiple Dwelling buildings from commercial
- 7 and manufacturing spaces to safe, rent-regulated residences that comply with the minimum standards
- 8 of safety and fire protection stated in Article 7-B of the New York State Multiple Dwelling Law. To
- 9 achieve this goal, the Board adjudicates and mediates disputes between owners and tenants, tracks the
- progress of each building undergoing legalization, and prosecutes parties who violate the Loft Law and
- the Loft Board rules.
- 12 The only item on the agenda today is the Loft Board rules and the Law Department's comments on
- those proposed rules. Mr. Schultz will be leading this discussion. Or is Mr. Clarke leading the discussion?
- 14 Mr. Schultz: Let's say I'll kick it off, and when it gets tough, Mr. Clarke will be there to save me.
- 15 Chairperson Hylton: Okay. My notes seem to say something different here, but Mr. Schultz is leading
- the discussion.
- 17 Mr. Schultz: We share our mind, Mr. Clarke and I. We all do. So, when I stop speaking, one of them will
- speak. Hello, everyone. Thanks for joining in this special rulemaking session. Just to lay the groundwork,
- this is the set of rules that were passed in May. I shouldn't say the rules were passed, but the language
- 20 that was voted on by the Board to reflect everything that the Board thought was the way they want the
- rules. Then that went to the Law Department. The Law Department has made comments, and over the
- 22 last two meetings, we've been working our way through those comments. And this meeting is a
- continuation of that. All who were there know some of the comments were very content-driven; others
- were less so. Being both thorough and efficient, I will move through them. When it is a form issue, I will
- note it and move on. It doesn't mean there can't be questions on it. Likewise, if there's a content issue
- 26 that I seem to be going through too quickly, of course, please just stop me. But I will work to be
- thorough and keep this moving. And as I always say to the staff, if while I'm speaking, I have something

- 1 wrong, please just chime in. Or if there's something that you think you can clarify, you have the freedom
- 2 and appreciation to do just that; because I have not been involved in most of the stages of this. Likewise
- 3 with other veteran members. I'm going to be relying on you to the extent that you have memories,
- 4 perhaps, of what was discussed before, at certain points, to try to get clarification on some things as
- 5 much as I can. So if I say something that is my understanding of the way it was previously discussed, feel
- 6 free to speak up to let me know if it's accurate or not. Anything before we start?
- 7 **Mr. DeLaney:** Before we start, can I just ask one question, Kevin?
- 8 Mr. Schultz: Of course.
- 9 Mr. DeLaney: We're working off the draft that you sent around captioned, clean draft markup, 10 29 21?
- 10 Mr. Schultz: Yes.
- 11 Mr. DeLaney: And has that had the changes that we discussed in the last few meetings put into it?
- 12 Mr. Schultz: Some of them. So first, I should mention there's a version available on our website next to
- the public link, the calendar link, that's the Loft Board rules. And that is the version that was passed in
- 14 May. It doesn't have the comments that the Board members have, that are the attorney comments, but
- to answer your question, Mr. DeLaney, I started putting some of them in, but then, once I realized that it
- changed the pagination, I decided not to, because I didn't want to disrupt any comparisons to the prior
- 17 version.
- 18 Mr. Delaney: So does that mean that the version the public has has the same pagination?
- 19 **Mr. Schultz:** That's correct.
- 20 Mr. DeLaney: Okay. That's what I was trying to figure out.
- 21 Mr. Schultz: And so, we had a September meeting where we discussed some things, and between
- September and October, we had incorporated those changes; but then I think I literally hit one that was
- big, and it changed the pagination. And I said, you know what, I'm going to stop and just leave the
- 24 discussed language, the approved language, or any changes in the margin, and then put it all in at once,

- so it can be compared to the main version. And then once we're through it, compared, [there will be]
- 2 basically three versions instead of multiple versions. I hope that works.
- 3 **Mr. DeLaney:** Thank you.
- 4 Mr. Schultz: You're welcome. Yes, of course. So with that, you'll see this did not go entirely
- 5 sequentially. So we'll be skipping over some, and for the Board members' sake, you'll see certain things
- 6 in the margin that we're going to skip over, because it notes that it was discussed in a previous meeting.
- 7 And so not rehashing anything we previously discussed, unless there's an update to that. Any other
- 8 comments or questions before we start? Okay. Wonderful.
- 9 So we're going to start on page 17, which is a page we spent a good amount of time on already. And this
- is within a section we had discussed in September. The Law Department's suggestion, and I think the
- Board was okay with it, was that some language be changed to reflect that it was service by Loft Board
- staff rather than a waiver of the service requirement. And so those changes were incorporated here,
- and they didn't change the pagination.
- But there was another suggestion compounding off of that. It's at the bottom of page 17, and it relates
- to (d)(2) at the bottom of page 17. And there's language that discusses: "To request service by the Loft
- Board, the Applicant must submit a written request, asking the Loft Board to serve each Affected Party
- attached to an electronic copy of the Application containing an electronic signature or a hard copy of
- such Application containing an original signature."
- 19 That is some new language we discussed, amongst new language for the whole rules, to change what
- 20 we've already changed. And we don't do that often, here, to be perfectly honest. There's some
- suggestion that, instead of describing all the things that are required, the language simply reference
- another section that discusses what is required. It will be more accurate; it'll be more thorough; it'll
- avoid a repetition that could create inconsistency. So, the language that's recommended is in the
- 24 margin. And you'll see it's largely similar, but it includes language that references 1-21(e), below, which,
- if you turn to page 18, are the requirements for filing an application with the Loft Board.

26

- 1 And so the language in that section (2), the first sentence only would now read, "To request service by
- the Loft Board." I'm sorry, I want to go back. This is (d)(2) at the bottom of page 17. The language
- 3 recommended is, "To consider service by the Loft Board, applicant must submit a written request asking
- 4 the Loft Board staff to serve each Affected Party attached to an electronic or hard copy of the
- 5 Application that complies with RCNY section 1-21(e), below." Are there any questions on that
- 6 suggestion and change?
- 7 **Chairperson Hylton:** I just want to correct you on something you read -- that to consider service; it says
- 8 to request service.
- 9 Mr. Schultz: Oh, I'm sorry. You're right to request service. Thank you. To request service by the Loft
- 10 Board.
- 11 Chairperson Hylton: And secondly, I don't know if it's important enough for us to put what RCNY before
- that number is. What RCNY number are we?
- 13 **Mr. Schultz:** Twenty-nine.
- 14 Chairperson Hylton: So maybe we should put 29 RCNY, before that?
- 15 Mr. Schultz: I'll check...
- 16 Chairperson Hylton: It's these rules, right? So, that complies with section 1-21(e) of these rules. No?
- 17 Mr. Schultz: I can certainly look at the rest for how we did it elsewhere for consistency. If any of the
- staff have an insight on how that's been referenced elsewhere, I'll take it. Otherwise...I see in other
- spaces there's language, "as defined in 29 RCNY section," et cetera, so the addition of 29...
- 20 Chairperson Hylton: At least put 29 in there.
- 21 Mr. Schultz: Yeah, that's what I see throughout. So yes, thank you, Chairperson. The addition of 29
- there would make it consistent. Thank you. Any other comments on that? And then further, in the next
- sentence of (d)(2), there's a reference to "an applicable fee." And the Law Department's suggestion is

- 1 that that language is unnecessary and repetitive, now that we have cleaned up the top part, because the
- 2 applicable fee is included and discussed in (e). And so, a lot of these changes the Law Department is
- 3 suggesting -- and some of them work, some of them might not -- are to avoid redundancy. And the
- 4 thinking is that redundancy can create the possibility of inconsistency. So that would be a few things we
- 5 see in there. And there are times where it's put here to consider; and there are times where we have
- 6 other reasons to not consider. Are there any questions about that comment on (d)(2)?
- 7 All right, thank you. I'm going to move on, then. We're going to move on, I should say, to page 20.
- 8 I almost didn't include this, but I thought I'd share it with the Board. There was a suggestion that the
- 9 language add the word business day. We're at the top of page 20. The section (c) on page 20, the
- second and third lines down, have language that reads, "...if any, with the Loft Board, on or before close
- of business on the last day of the time period." And the Law Department wondered if the Board wanted
- to put business day in there. In analysis, I noted those words aren't actually necessary, because we have
- a computation of time section that has that go without saying. I don't know if Law Department knew
- that. I'm not going to say it needn't be here nor there, because I obviously brought it to the Board, but
- 15 this is an example, I suppose, where Law Department thought clarity was good. I happen to know the
- Board likes easier reading stuff, so I put it here as a suggestion. Does the Board have any thoughts on
- adding the word business before the word day? Yay or nay?
- 18 **Mr. DeLaney:** This is with regards to filing answers, correct?
- 19 Mr. Schultz: Yes.
- 20 Chairperson Hylton: Are you talking about (d)? (d) what number?
- 21 Mr. Schultz: No. I'm talking about (c), which continues from page 19 into 20. The third line down.
- 22 Chairperson Hylton: I don't think you should put business there. It doesn't do anything to clarify,
- because we're talking about business days, and it's just the last day of those business days.
- 24 Mr. Schultz: Yeah, I actually agree, and I almost didn't bring it to the Board, but then I don't want to be
- 25 presumptive about anything, to be perfectly honest.

- 1 Mr. Hylton: Business day makes it as clear as possible. You just say the last day, close of business. Close
- 2 of business is different than business day.
- 3 **Chairperson Hylton:** It's the last day of the time period stated. The time period is given in business days.
- 4 Okay, so it's the last day of that time period. That's how it reads here, which... It has to be a business
- 5 day.
- 6 Mr. Barowitz: Let's just take out "on or before close of business." Let's just remove it.
- 7 Mr. Schultz: All right. I'm going to suggest, frankly, that we not add the word business to it, because the
- 8 use of another section that is controlling implicates the right timeline without any extra words. And so
- 9 this is a time where Law Department made a suggestion, and I actually think it's not necessary. It doesn't
- help. I'm not sure it would hurt, but I'm not sure it helps.
- 11 Mr. Hylton: I think it helps in clarity. When you say business day, it means business day. Then you know
- 12 how you're counting.
- 13 Chairperson Hylton: But we only count in business days, don't we?
- 14 Mr. Barowitz: I don't think it matters in terms of what's being said here. It doesn't matter. I mean, if you
- simply say, on the last day of the time period, etcetera, that's enough. Whether it's business day,
- weekday, holiday. Let's not go nuts with putting all of these things in. It just gets more jargon in there
- and more confusing. But okay, whatever you want to do.
- 18 Mr. Schultz: So again, Mr. Hylton, I want to hear you out, certainly. I'll just note that section 1-16, which
- 19 is computation of time, would render the addition of that word unnecessary, especially from a legal
- standpoint. The suggestion by Law Department, frankly, I don't know if it was done out of ignorance of
- 21 that section, or because they thought clarity was important. I will say Law Department tended not to like
- redundancy. So I'm a little surprised they included it. My recommendation is to not.... I'll be honest, I do
- 23 not think I've come across a time where there's been disagreement amongst the Board on a rulemaking
- term. So, I don't know how it's been handled in the past. I don't know if we just move on.
- 25 **Mr. Hylton:** I've raised my point. Feel free to move on.

- 1 Mr. DeLaney: I have to say I tend to agree with Mr. Hylton. We do define in our definitions the term
- 2 business day. We don't define the term day.
- 3 Mr. Schultz: Yes.
- 4 Mr. Hylton: Okay.
- 5 Mr. Schultz: So Chairperson, could you actually educate me? Because I know I listened to some
- 6 meetings, but did moments like this come to a vote? If there's a nuanced disagreement....
- 7 **Chairperson Hylton:** Mr. Barowitz, we probably...It's just maybe an agreement, right?
- 8 Mr. Hylton: I don't think it needs to be a vote. I think you're in agreement to move on, leaving it as is. So
- 9 just keep going.
- 10 Chairperson Hylton: Right.
- 11 Ms. Roslund: I would agree with Chairperson Hylton, having just re-read section 1-16(a), it is very clear.
- 12 If one were reading the rules from beginning to end, it's just a section or two before where we are right
- 13 now. So you kind have just read it.
- 14 Chairperson Hylton: All right.
- 15 Mr. Schultz: I'm going to leave it as is. It's something that could be revisited if anyone has strong
- 16 feelings about it. Moving on to page 22, this is one of a few that I'll call somewhat unresolved. I'm
- bringing it to the Board's attention because I want you to be aware of it. And I'm, of course, happy to
- hear any thoughts. But this is potentially more of a conversation between OATH and Law Department
- than ourselves.
- 20 At the bottom of page 22, at section 1-27(c), there's language that discusses the hearings that will be
- involved in our applications, and it discusses that, "At the hearing, the parties may be represented by
- counsel, or by a duly authorized representative." And the Law Department has suggested some
- parenthetical language that says, "provided such duly authorized representative neither provides legal
- 24 advice or an opinion of law, nor holds himself or herself out as a lawyer without being admitted to the

- 1 bar in the state of New York." And Law Department has legal reasons why they think this language is
- 2 important.
- Now, I want to be clear, this doesn't say that the individual has to be an attorney. What it says is they
- 4 can't hold themselves out as one. And it then also says they can't provide legal advice. And Law
- 5 Department has cited what they believe are some cases to support this. OATH has so far believed that
- 6 this language is unnecessary. My opinion is also that it's unnecessary, frankly, because it's going to go
- 7 without saying based on the controlling law. I personally don't see it as our rules' concern to address.
- 8 Law Department obviously disagrees.
- 9 I wanted you to be aware of this as a space that might need some additional conversation, but perhaps
- 10 not. Right now, honestly, I need OATH and the Law Department on the same phone call, which hasn't
- happened yet. I do want to present it, though, again, because everything's new to me here, and so to
- the extent that there are thoughts that I could bring to that conversation from the Board, I want to be
- able to do that.
- 14 Chairperson Hylton: I'm just curious. What cases do they cite that makes them feel that this is necessary
- to put in a rule? What's illegal somewhere else?
- 16 Mr. Schultz: And not all Loft Board cases, to be clear. General law, that does appropriately say that
- 17 people can't...
- 18 Chairperson Hylton: Isn't it just plain illegal somewhere, in some rules, some law, that a non-lawyer can
- 19 give legal advice. You can't ever hold yourself out to be who you are not, anywhere.
- 20 Mr. Barowitz: (unclear) I feel that a non-lawyer can appear in a court representing, let's say, a victim.
- 21 And if the judge rules a non-lawyer out of order, then he's out of order. Otherwise, you don't need to be
- a lawyer to defend somebody in court. So I don't know what we need this additional paragraph for.
- 23 Chairperson Hylton: I'm not sure why the Law Department would even do that. Kevin, but to your
- point, though, what kind of case were they saying? Can you remember?
- 25 **Mr. Schultz:** I can look...

- 1 Chairperson Hylton: Don't even bother, but I just find this odd that they would want to do this, because
- 2 this doesn't seem like something that I've even read in any rules -- that we're not setting ourselves, that
- 3 you actually put in a little parenthetical language here to say if something is illegal, don't do it. I don't
- 4 know. How does everybody else feel? I don't want Law Department to hold up our rules because of
- 5 some discretionary thing, so I'm hesitant to say don't change it. But still, I just don't understand why
- 6 they would even suggest this.
- 7 **Mr. DeLaney:** If I remember correctly....
- 8 Chairperson Hylton: Sorry, Mr. DeLaney. Obviously, OATH is disagreeing also, and they're the courts.
- 9 Mr. DeLaney: If I remember correctly, we've put this in because when we did the very thorough
- 10 comparison that Mr. Argov, I think, spearheaded, comparing our rules and OATH's rules, we noticed that
- OATH had this and we didn't. And it seemed like a good idea to add duly authorized representative. And
- obviously, in OATH's rules, they don't have all that language that the Law Department would like to see
- us add. So the fact that they don't think it's necessary, is not surprising, because they don't have it in
- their rules.
- 15 Mr. Schultz: So I think I want to leave it and pause for a moment to make sure there's not another
- comment. But I think I got what I wanted, which was -- and again, just hearing from folks who've been
- here for a while, it's helpful -- that there's nothing about that language that the Board sees valuable.
- And look, to the extent it becomes an inevitability, I would let this Board know. Otherwise, I'll stand for
- the proposition that we don't think it's necessary or helpful.
- 20 Chairperson Hylton: Okay, so (unclear). And you'll get back to us?
- 21 Mr. Schultz: Again, I'll pause to make sure there's not another comment, but if it turns out that Law
- Department will move on this, then you will not see it. If it turns out that Law Department has strong
- reasons or digs their heels in, or whatever, then I would revisit it as a point of awareness, I suppose.
- 24 Chairperson Hylton: Can I at least get consensus from the Board that if the Law Department feels
- 25 strongly and makes a point of having to send this back to us, that we just make the change, right? Give
- Mr. Schultz or the Loft Board (staff) the okay to just go ahead and keep it in if they feel that strongly. We

- shouldn't have to come back to the Board on this because it's really not killing anything. It's just
- 2 completely unnecessary, I think. But if they feel strongly, we're not going to come back to the Board to
- 3 argue this.
- 4 Mr. DeLaney: The note also says that the bright lights at OATH consider this language not only
- 5 unnecessary, but improper. Would you share with us....
- 6 Mr. Schultz: Those are my words. That might have been editorializing. But I do know that OATH has
- 7 gone on record saying that it's not needed. And I think what they said was, largely, what I think Mr.
- 8 Barowitz said, which is that ALJ's have control and authority over those kinds of issues.
- 9 The good news is, it seems to me the Board is in relative unison here. So I would put this way. If it
- 10 becomes inevitable and convincing that it needs to be there, I will come here to convince the Board of
- it, whether on its merits or on the need to remove it.
- 12 Chairperson Hylton: Mr. Schultz, that's my point. I don't want this to have to come back. I think this is
- not one that you should have to come back to. I think if the Law Department insists, then so be it. I don't
- think it does anything one way or the other. We're just saying it's not necessary and so does OATH. I
- don't know why they feel it is absolutely necessary. You can tell them that the Board doesn't want it,
- and they can say it absolutely has to be there. Then we will just leave it. That's my feeling. How do you
- 17 guys feel? I don't think this is necessary to come back to us, if they say yes, it has to go there. Because
- 18 guess what? We're not going anywhere without their approval anyway. And this is not something that
- 19 changes anything except this.
- 20 Mr. Barowitz: I agree.
- 21 Chairperson Hylton: Thank you, Mr. Barowitz. Anyone else feel the same way?
- Various Board members speak together, saying they agree.
- 23 Mr. Schultz: I understand. Thank you, everybody. I'm going to move on to page 23. This is the second of
- a series of language that involves OATH. On page 23, in section (f). Actually, let me start over. This
- doesn't really involve OATH that much. It's section (f) on page 23, and it discusses the authority that the

- Loft Board staff has to conduct hearings. That has not occurred in my time here. My time is relatively 1 2 short. But I've also heard it has not occurred in a long time. Our hearings have been transferred to 3 OATH as a practice for a long time. But that is not by requirement. There is the possibility that there's a 4 system where staff members conduct hearings. And Law Department flagged this language because it 5 was written quite restrictively from a resource standpoint, suggesting that if a Loft Board (staff) member 6 conducts a hearing, then that's all they will do for the Loft Board. And I think Law Department's 7 comment was, frankly, less legal than logistical in suggesting that adding language ensuring that there's 8 no conflict would benefit the Loft Board (staff) by giving it flexibility. Before I read the language, I'll 9 pause and say, does everyone understand what I'm talking about? Does anyone have any questions? 10 So the language that should replace it. You'll see it's longer, and it's intended to say that staff members, 11 if they conducted a hearing, are not restricted to doing only hearings, but would rather be required to 12 carry it out in a way that ensures no conflicts. So, I'm going to read that now. The language to consider 13 in section 1-27(f) would read, "Hearings conducted by Loft Board staff member. Where a hearing is conducted by a Loft Board staff 14 15 member, such staff member may take testimony under oath, consider affidavits and other evidence, submit recommended findings of fact and a recommended decision to the Loft Board, and perform 16 other such duties appropriate and/or necessary to carry out his or her duties as an Adjudicator. While 17 18 performing such adjudicative duties, such staff member shall not perform any other duties for or on 19 behalf of the Loft Board that could create a conflict of interest or impair his or her ability to impartially 20 carry out his or her adjudicative duties." 21 As I was reading it, I noticed the capitalization of adjudicator, which honestly, I want to check.
- 23 Mr. Schultz: Yes, it's defined.

Chairperson Hylton: That's because it's defined somewhere.

22

Chairperson Hylton: I don't have any problem with that. I think they're saying you can be an adjudicator
and make copies for the Loft Board, do something different. So it doesn't bind the Loft Board. But it's
very clear here that you can't do anything that would create a conflict of interest in writing decisions

- and then adjudicating a case that results from an appeal or something like that. I think it's okay. I don't
- 2 know how everybody feels.
- 3 Ms. Roslund: Yeah, it's actually clearer than the existing language, which both raises the question of
- 4 why can someone only be assigned to those duties and then what constitutes those duties. As
- 5 Chairperson Hylton just said, if you were to make copies or something, is that outside of your
- 6 jurisdiction for that day? It's not clear in the new language.
- 7 Mr. Schultz: Any other comments or questions? Thank you, Ms. Roslund.
- 8 Mr. DeLaney: I agree. I think it's a little more thorough in spelling things out.
- 9 Mr. Schultz: Slow pause, lest there be any other comment... and move on to page 24. This is language
- relating to settlements on the bottom of page 24, section 1-30. This involves where a matter is sent. It's
- sent to OATH at this point, but when a matter goes to a hearing.... We've received an application; it's
- been sent to the hearing officer; instead of having a hearing, the parties have agreed. They've settled;
- they stipulated. And our rules have language about how the Board will receive a summary of that and
- then approve it. You've seen that in our agendas. And so, the Law Department has suggested a few
- changes to this. One is the replacement of the word "made" with "provided," which I thought was just a
- more formal use. And then there is a change in the second sentence. The effort here, according to Law
- 17 Department, was not to make legal changes, but to clarify the grammar. I could read the old version if
- 18 you'd like out loud, but suffice to say there were some ands in there that made it not as clear as the Law
- 19 Department thinks the current version is. So the effort was to say the same thing and eliminate any sort
- of confusion as to what was meant here. I'll take a quick pause to see if there's any questions.
- 21 Mr. DeLaney: I think we need a minute to read.
- 22 Mr. Schultz: Sure, take your time.
- 23 Chairperson Hylton: This thing about Loft Board and Loft Board staff, is that how we decided to
- 24 differentiate between the staff and the Board? Did we say... was it Board or Loft Board? How do you
- refer to members of the Board elsewhere? Is it the Board or Loft Board?

- 1 Mr. Schultz: I don't know. I will ask the staff if they either know that, to give us some insight, or to
- 2 maybe do a scan of the language to see if they can find other references to Board, Loft Board, Loft
- 3 Board members... to see if it's expressed in any particular way throughout.
- 4 If it's helpful, what the Law Department said was that it was difficult to tell the extent to which the
- 5 portion about directing staff to reopen a matter related to the language at the end about referring. So
- 6 it's broken into two sentences on the different language. Ms. Roslund, if you're speaking, we can't hear
- 7 you.
- 8 Ms. Roslund: I'm just reading to myself.
- 9 Mr. Schultz: Oh, I thought you were getting the right answer. I didn't want to miss it.
- 10 Mr. Delaney: The way that the comment is structured, it's a little unclear what they think the entire
- section (a) would read. It's a little unclear to me.
- 12 Mr. Schultz: Repeat that, again. It's a little unclear what they think it would all mean?
- 13 Mr. DeLaney: No, no, no. Right now, (a) is one paragraph. They seem to...The first paragraph in the
- comment piece, after the word consider, is actually making a small modification to the second sentence
- in what's in the text, correct?
- 16 Mr. Schultz: Yes, and I realize now that the highlighting is overstated. Language.... Yes. Thank you, Mr.
- DeLaney. You're absolutely right. The first sentence of section (a) would be unaffected. Yes, you're
- absolutely correct. The first sentence of section (a) goes unchanged; and then most of the second
- 19 sentence is unchanged.
- 20 Mr. DeLaney: Well, no, they changed the word made to provide.
- 21 Mr. Schultz: Yes, yes. Most of it remains unchanged.
- Mr. Delaney: Then, there is a sentence in the comment paragraph. "Upon issuance of an order such
- 23 summary cases shall be deemed closed." That is what is currently the last sentence in the paragraph.

- 1 Mr. Schultz: Yes. And that's part of...
- 2 Mr. Delaney: So then the new paragraph they suggest uses part of one of the sentences that's in the
- 3 existing text.
- 4 Mr. Schultz: And I think that might be at the crux of some of the change because the suggestion that
- 5 remanding it back results in a case being closed. The last sentence discussing a case being closed after
- 6 just saying it's going to be remanded I think might be part of the confusion that they were trying to
- 7 highlight and eliminate by taking the talk of remand and putting it below the talk of closing a matter.
- 8 Mr. Barowitz: I will keep guiet about this from here on in, but I just feel that a lot of this stuff is so
- 9 unnecessary and confusing. When I was teaching in school, if somebody would write something like this,
- 10 I would ask him to rewrite it. So, the first sentence says, where the parties resolve a dispute, period.
- 11 What do you mean to their mutual satisfaction? They've resolved the dispute. You don't need that,
- right? And then it goes on, and on, and on. So, I'm going to stop doing this now. But if some outsider
- begins to read this, not familiar with us, not familiar with the law, I think it just gets enormously
- 14 complicated and confusing. And you come away with it wondering exactly what in the world is the main
- resource of putting this idea of the settlements in here, which indeed is very, very important. I will keep
- 16 quiet now.
- 17 Chairperson Hylton: Good point, Mr. Barowitz. It's just that these are written by lawyers. They want to
- 18 cover everything. I guess it's very possible that you can settle a dispute not to your satisfaction, if a gun
- was being held to your head.
- 20 Ms. Roslund: It's still settled.
- 21 Chairperson Hylton: Yeah.
- 22 Ms. Roslund: My question is, the sentence that Mr. Schultz just discussed -- Upon issuance of an order.
- 23 Whose order? What's the order?
- 24 Mr. Schultz: The order of the Loft Board, I'm fairly certain. The Loft Board's order.

- 1 Ms. Roslund: To do what?
- 2 Mr. Schultz: The case. The document that is passed by the Loft Board is called the order. Every time
- 3 you vote, you vote on an order; a proposed order.
- 4 Ms. Roslund: I guess I'm exaggerating to make a point because it said... All right, so we're talking about
- 5 a stipulation of settlement, which is then reported to the Loft Board, which includes the type of
- 6 application, the issues presented, the resolution reached; and then we jump to issuing an order. So it's
- 7 the process that we go through during our Loft Board meetings. The settlement is presented. We then
- 8 vote upon an order to accept the resolution, correct? But there it sort of jumps, in my opinion, in this
- 9 sentence, from something being provided to us -- to the Loft Board -- to the Loft Board doing
- 10 something.
- 11 So that's why I'm thinking it was at the end. The stipulated settlement is presented to the Loft Board and
- the staff; an order is proposed; the Loft Board reviews and votes. And we can either vote to accept the
- order or remand. Accept the settlement or remand. So, either of those is an order, correct?
- 14 Mr. Schultz: Yes. Upon issuance of an order to accept the settlement...
- 15 Chairperson Hylton: In acceptance of the settlement.
- 16 Mr. Schultz: In acceptance of the settlement, such summary cases shall be deemed closed. To
- distinguish between the two orders.
- 18 Chairperson Hylton: OATH is not issuing an order, correct? OATH is issuing a recommendation. Mr.
- 19 Clarke, are you agreeing or not? What is OATH issuing?
- 20 Mr. Clarke: For these summary cases, what OATH does is, they'll send us a cover sheet that says that
- 21 the parties have...Pursuant to a stipulation, they're sending the case back to us, and they're deeming it
- resolved. So we get that back. And then we write summary cases based on that.
- 23 Chairperson Hylton: So they're sending us back just a stipulation. They're not really sending anything
- back, nothing like an order or anything?

- 1 Mr. Clarke: No
- 2 Chairperson Hylton: So what are we remanding?
- 3 Mr. Clarke: In some situations, we've remanded some stipulations, because we've reviewed them, and
- 4 we deemed them against public policy or something like that.
- 5 Chairperson Hylton: I understand. Okay, so we're not remanding an order. We're just requesting,
- 6 basically, that they review the matter again, correct?
- 7 **Mr. Clarke:** Correct.
- 8 Chairperson Hylton: This last sentence needs to be clarified. "Upon issuance of an order, such cases
- 9 shall be deemed closed." How do we rephrase that, Mr. Schultz?
- 10 Mr. Schultz: Upon issuance of an order in acceptance of the settlement.
- 11 Chairperson Hylton: Upon the Loft Board issuing an order, correct?
- Mr. Schultz: Upon Loft Board's issuance of an order in acceptance of a settlement, such summary cases
- shall be deemed closed. That seems to speak truth to me, in my understanding of how things work. Mr.
- 14 Clarke, Ms. Lin, Ms. Lee, does that describe what happens?
- 15 Mr. Clarke: I would say yes.
- 16 Chairperson Hylton: The confusion I'm still having is... I don't understand what the comment is. Are they
- suggesting we rephrase this to phrase it the way they have it here?
- 18 Mr. Schultz: The Law Department's comment is not intense. And the language change it was an effort
- 19 to try to clarify it. I'll put it this way. A lawyer read it and didn't understand it. And so that's not nothing
- to me.
- 21 **Chairperson Hylton:** A lawyer wrote it.
- 22 Mr. Schultz: Well, not the same lawyer, right?

- 1 Chairperson Hylton: But Kevin, I'm sorry, I don't mean to interrupt, but what I'm trying to get at is the
- 2 piece on the comment. I agree with the last language you just wrote for the last sentence. But this
- 3 whole thing on the right side -- the Law Department's language in the comments piece here is that
- 4 supposed to replace something?
- 5 Mr. Schultz: Yeah, everything. The first sentence, I highlighted poorly, I apologize. The first sentence
- 6 remains the same. And then everything after that is replaced by what's in the margin.
- 7 **Chairperson Hylton:** In the margin. And it starts with what? A summary?
- 8 Mr. Schultz: A summary. So you see the second sentence starts with, a summary report of such
- 9 matters? Most of the language in that sentence is unchanged.
- 10 Chairperson Hylton: Right, except for the word...
- 11 Mr. Schultz: ...made and provided. And then it continues as it's written in the margin. And we just added
- some words.
- 13 Chairperson Hylton: And then it continues with, where the Loft Board determines that....
- 14 Mr. Schultz: And you'll see that it's largely a reuse of already existing words, just reordered with
- different punctuation with the effort to make it clearer.
- 16 Chairperson Hylton: Okay, good. So the piece you just read, the last sentence, upon issuance of an
- order, that new structure we just agreed upon, that's going on in the margin piece. That's correcting the
- 18 last sentence.
- 19 Mr. Schultz: Yeah, I was editing that, for final consideration.
- 20 Chairperson Hylton: Yes. Thank you.
- 21 Mr. Schultz: I can read that entire section.
- 22 Chairperson Hylton: If you don't mind.

- 1 Mr. Schultz: I don't mind. It would start: "Where the parties resolve a dispute to their mutual
- 2 satisfaction, a stipulation of settlement setting out all terms of the agreement shall be entered into by
- 3 the parties and reviewed by the Executive Director." That's the first sentence, unchanged. The second
- 4 sentence, we'll start to see some changes toward the end. "A summary report of such matters, including
- 5 the type of application, the issues presented, and the resolution reached must be provided to the Loft
- 6 Board by the Loft Board staff. Upon the Loft Board's issuance of an order in acceptance of a settlement
- 7 such summary cases shall be deemed closed." Continuing, and I believe without a new paragraph,
- 8 actually, now that I look at it: "Where the Loft Board determines that the record in the underlying
- 9 proceeding has not been fully developed or investigated," comma, "the Loft Board may direct its staff to
- reopen a matter in whole or in part for further development or investigation." Period. "As part of such
- investigation," comma, "the Loft Board may refer the matter back to OATH for development of a
- 12 complete record." Period.
- 13 Chairperson Hylton: Good. I remember this now, that OATH did not want us to use the word remand
- in there, correct? I Remember that.
- 15 Mr. Schultz: I've heard that. I'll defer to you, folks. That rings true.
- 16 Chairperson Hylton: That sounds good. Thank you, unless someone else...
- 17 Mr. Schultz: To be clear, everyone's going to get another chance to look at this, obviously, incorporated
- in its totality, and hopefully comparing it to what you have here, and with a few notes that we're all
- making. Under 1-30 (b), there is the recommendation by the Law Department that the word "must"
- 20 become the word "shall." I have to confess, no context at this time on that. I do not know if
- 21 conversations occurred previously on must versus shall. I think either is fine. And going back to what the
- Chairperson said, I'm not sure this is a hill I would die on. But I'll stop there.
- 23 Chairperson Hylton: I think that's the way they're doing stuff. Now they're using the word shall instead
- of must. Just legal stylistic language.
- 25 Mr. Schultz: Thank you. I'm going to move on to page 29, the middle of the page. We discussed [this] in
- September. It was originally just a form issue, and then we had some more talk. The words "code"

- 1 compliance deadlines" needed to be not-bolded and instead italicized. And then in that conversation,
- we thought, and I think I even suggested it -- I've come a long way in two months -- that we put a (b)
- 3 there before that because it would look nice. But that would in fact, change the citation retroactively so
- 4 whenever someone cited this section previously, it would become confusing. So, I'm rescinding that
- 5 suggestion, lest anyone remember it and thought it was very important. Re-labeling these things with
- 6 numbers and letters can create retroactive problems. So this is one of the few times where something
- 7 we talked about, I want to talk about again. Does anyone have any thoughts on that? Wonderful. If it
- 8 helps, we got through some of the hard stuff already. I think there's some easy stuff coming.
- 9 Page 45. Okay, here's an easy one. And there's a lot of them. At the very bottom of page 45, we'll see
- this a lot, and we'll move past it quickly, hopefully. It's simply a matter of form for editing. Deleted
- language comes before added language. So, you'll see that we added the number (5) and then deleted
- the word calendar. Law Department has picked out several times where those need to be swapped.
- 13 And it creates no change to the ultimate language.
- 14 Chairperson Hylton: And it actually makes sense.
- 15 Mr. Schultz: All right, and there's more of those, and I'll note them and move on. Going to page 50. At
- the top of page 50, there is a note from Law Department that the word "provide"...I'm sorry. The word
- 17 "provide" is used here, whereas below there's discussion of service... of the narrative statement. So the
- question becomes, do we want people to serve narrative statements, or do we want people to provide
- them? And does it matter? And should language be consistent?
- 20 This is one of several examples we're going to see where, frankly, the feedback that is being
- recommended to Law Department is that section two is slated for a larger editing effort, a larger
- amendment effort, and that this kind of review is not going to help us get the sections we need to
- incorporate the 2019 amendments done. And so in a moment like this, we're simply using the language
- 24 we've inherited for the most part. There have been some other changes, but use of words -- and as
- you'll see soon, certain definitions -- is a very deep dive that will take a lot of time to do and to ensure
- it's done right. My understanding is the Board's preference is to not quibble with those things now, with

- the understanding that section two will receive a substantive review in the future. And you'll see this a
- 2 few times, as we discuss.
- 3 Chairperson Hylton: I have a question Mr. Schultz. Narrative statements provided. Do they have to be
- 4 served in a particular way?
- 5 Mr. Schultz: I'm going to let Mr. Clarke speak. We spoke about this a little bit. The language that
- 6 currently exists, other than this one time, uses the word service throughout. And you'll see lower on
- 7 page 50, that they actually think the word service is probably not appropriate because it's used as
- 8 initiating a legal proceeding, which narrative statements are perhaps not. Suffice to say, either way,
- 9 these are not the kinds of things we were looking to spend time and energy on in passing this version of
- 10 the amendments. I understand there was, to some extent, a decision made, that some things would be
- done piecemeal, and conversations like this would be one of the things to be addressed later, in order to
- 12 get the 2019 amendment language done. I'll now let Mr. Clarke answer your question. The narrative
- statement process is referred to as service both in the rules and in practice. Is that fair to say, Mr.
- 14 Clarke?
- 15 Mr. Clarke: Yes. It's referred to as service.
- 16 Chairperson Hylton: Thank you, Mr. Clarke. So to the extent, then, that we come across it, just put
- serve.
- 18 Ms. Oddo: When I see the word provide, I interpret that as, it's available but not required to be given.
- 19 So I do like the word service.
- 20 Chairperson Hylton: A little loosey-goosey, right? Thank you, Nicole. I think you're saying it's a
- requirement for service. So, you're right. It should just be serve.
- 22 Mr. Schultz: So for consistency, provides should become served. I think the lawyers will give it a look to
- 23 make sure that it doesn't do undue damage, but this leads to the bottom of the page, where more
- 24 fundamentally, Law Department thinks service is perhaps inappropriate. Not only do I disagree, but my
- understanding is, we're not spending the time to analyze these things right now. And that's the
- 26 feedback.

- 1 Chairperson Hylton: Just point them to the fact that a narrative statement has to be served
- appropriately, by our rule, right. They're probably just not aware of it.
- 3 Mr. Schultz: Okay, any other comments on the top of page 50?
- 4 Ms. Roslund: Just that it's interesting that they didn't change that must to shall.
- 5 **Chairperson Hylton:** Where's that?
- 6 Ms. Roslund: Right in front of the word we're looking at.
- 7 Ms. Oddo: Is there another word that says that you have to give something to someone, but isn't the
- 8 word service, which is also, technically, another term? There has to be another word that's better than
- 9 provide, which just sounds like it means...
- 10 Chairperson Hylton: Yeah, but I think service, serve is proper here, because there is an actual
- requirement to serve the narrative statement. So I think, Ms. Oddo, that the word serve here is
- 12 appropriate.
- 13 Ms. Oddo: Okay
- 14 Chairperson Hylton: So listen, we should change that must to shall. I don't want the Law Department
- coming back with more objections. But I'm trying to....
- 16 Mr. Schultz: (Let me ask the) staff members about musts and shalls before I showed up. One of you can
- surely crack the code on that?
- 18 Chairperson Hylton: I understand. I'm sure Mr. DeLaney would know this, but I think the plain language
- 19 police prefer the word must and the Law Department prefers shall. I believe that's where that came
- from. But we have to go with what the Law Department wants here.
- 21 Mr. Barowitz: We also had a session about "will."
- 22 Chairperson Hylton: I guess that could be another issue.

- 1 Mr. Schultz: All right. So for consistency and importance, we think serve is better than provide. In the
- 2 unlikely event the lawyers over here somehow think that does some damage, we'll let you know.
- 3 Otherwise, we'll go with that. Off the top, I think it's fine.
- 4 Chairperson Hylton: Here's the bottom line, in my own non-lawyerly thinking. If you put the words shall
- 5 provide there, it just means that I could provide it tomorrow, or I could provide it some other way; I
- 6 could tell you to go pick it up somewhere. There's no guidance or guideline on how. But since there are
- 7 guidelines on the proper service of these narrative statements, then it has to be serve. You have to
- 8 serve them properly, right? Otherwise, you might give it in some format that is not acceptable by rule. I
- 9 think that's how I would look at it; to say that serve is more proper.
- 10 Mr. Schultz: Thank you. Anyone else? Great. You'll see a couple of matter of form -- deleted language
- comes before added language -- in that same sentence in that same paragraph. That would just be,
- again, switching the underlined stuff, putting it after the bracketed stuff, but it has no effective change
- to the final language. There's another similar such comment lower on page 50 in section (b). And then
- there is, essentially, the discussion we just had on service discussed there. Whereas I said that Law
- Department is concerned the word service is inappropriately used, and while I disagree, I think the more
- important comment is that that is a big conversation to have, and if it needs to happen, it can happen
- when section two is amended. The word service is working now, and if there's a reason to change it, we
- 18 can discuss that later so that we can get through the 2019 amendments.
- Okay, moving on to page 72, let's take an easy one. And this is one we'll see a lot. I almost didn't bring it
- to you, but I don't want anything to go unmentioned. There are several times throughout here, where
- 21 there's a bracket that's not necessary. It's just a straight-up typo. At the bottom of page 72, in section
- 22 (c), we replace small cap occupants with large cap occupants, and there's a little bracket there that
- 23 needs to go. That should be uncontroversial, because it has no place there, in section (c) on page 72,
- after the capital letter O, occupants.
- Now we're going to go to page 78. And this is another one where, I bring this up only to illustrate that I
- take nothing for granted. There are several times throughout these rules where a bracket is underlined.
- 27 It's probably a select and replace error or something. Anyplace you see a bracket that's underlined, that

- 1 would be improper by form, and that will be changed. And there's an example of that on page 78 in
- 2 section (c) with the word business days. The last sentence of that section (c) on page 78 at the top of the
- 3 page.
- 4 Mr. Barowitz: There was a time in the English language when all nouns are capitalized.
- 5 Mr. Schultz: A time when all nouns are capitalized.
- 6 Mr. Barowitz: There was a point in the English language when that was the case. It's coming back here
- 7 perfectly.
- 8 Mr. Schultz: Well, once we define everything in the definition section, that'll be the case again. Moving
- 9 on to page 83. This is the first of several similar comments. I think about four or five of them. So on page
- 10 83...
- 11 **Mr. DeLaney:** I'm sorry, can I interrupt?
- 12 Mr. Schultz: Of course
- 13 Mr. DeLaney: Going back to page 73, where we have various things that need to be done where we
- 14 refer to them as business days. My recollection is that back when Helaine started this rule redrafting
- process -- even before the 2019 amendments, because actually these discussions predate that
- amendment -- we were attempting to get away from the confusion between business days and calendar
- days. Is that something that the current staff has focused on? Because I notice here on... We're very
- clear on the top of page 78 -- and thank God for the Law Department, having us make sure that we have
- 19 the bracketed before the new, and extraneous brackets -- but then we go down in the middle of the
- page there in (f)(2), we're back to saying, "... may be preceded by informal conference, but in any case,
- shall be commenced not more than thirty (30) days after the decision by the Executive Director to
- 22 bifurcate...." So we're back to regular days. I thought at one point -- Elliott, maybe you can help me out
- here that there was a proposed goal of trying to make sure that whenever we used the term, it was
- the same. Does that ring a bell?

- 1 Chairperson Hylton: It does ring a bell, Mr. DeLaney. But in this particular instance, you're talking about
- 2 thirty days. I think there's some logic behind it, once it gets up to thirty, that you're not talking about
- 3 business anymore, you're talking about days. I don't recall that there was a distinction, but for example,
- 4 you wouldn't have sixty business days to do something. You wouldn't have thirty business days, you'd
- 5 have thirty days. You'd have five business days, ten business days, fifteen business days. But once you
- 6 get into a month, you're not talking business days anymore, but actual days. Kevin, you probably want
- 7 to look at that a little further, but I think that's the distinction here, that it actually got to a certain
- 8 amount of days.
- 9 Mr. Schultz: That does look to be the consistency to me when days are mentioned. It's usually either
- five, or thirty, or slightly more than thirty. When it's five, business looks to be designated, and when it's
- 11 not, just days. And when it isn't designated, there is language in 1-16 that discusses computation of
- time; that talks about Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and if something falls, and when it starts, which my
- usage has proven, so far at least, to confirm or clarify anything that needs to be clarified.
- 14 **Mr. DeLaney**: Okay
- 15 Chairperson Hylton: I think this is deliberate here, Mr. DeLaney, because it's just right below where we
- spell out business days. And then here it's left in these two instances where the thirty is just days. And I
- would think, realistically, after the amount of days hits thirty, then you stop counting business days and
- 18 go with days.
- 19 Mr. DeLaney: Okay
- 20 Mr. Schultz: What I've seen is what Renaldo says. When it's five or something like that, it says business.
- 21 And then in the other cases, it goes unsaid, because there's a section that defines it. Take a pause
- before moving on to page 83.
- 23 On page 83, at the bottom, we're in Harassment, and there's section (b) *Definitions*. It's being
- recommended that this language be added, which says, "For the purposes of this section, the following
- definitions apply." And that is lifted from another place where that same language is used. It's not just
- for consistency, but it is for delineating any definitions that may be repeated, which is something Law

- 1 Department has taken issue with in some cases. And our stance, to harken back to what I said before, is
- 2 that the use of definitions in various places is a complicated business to adjust, and the dive it will take
- 3 to do it correctly can and will be done in a wholesale amendment of section two. To do it now will slow
- 4 down the adoption of the vital pieces that incorporate the 2019 amendments. So that is what I have
- 5 understood the Board to stand for; that is what makes sense to me; and while Law Department's just
- 6 trying to do its job here, their feedback has been that we need to sort out these definitions here and
- 7 now can create a real risk of unintended consequences. Right now, every change that has been made
- 8 does not touch those things. And so it is the current recommendation that we fry those fish later. And
- 9 language like, "For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply," and similar language
- that's in § 1-12 that says, "unless otherwise defined," allows room to have definitions in two places. For
- the most part, I've done some review, and they do look to be consistent. But where there are
- differences, perhaps they matter; perhaps they don't. I'll confess, I just got here eight months ago. I
- don't know yet. I don't want to break anything. It seems like what I inherited felt the same way. Does
- that make sense?
- 15 Mr. DeLaney: Months are kind of like business days. Fifteen months from now, Kevin, you can't be
- saying I only got here twenty-three months ago.
- 17 Mr. Schultz: As the number grows, deniability does become less convincing, doesn't it?
- 18 Mr. DeLaney: Calendar months
- 19 Mr. Schultz: Calendar months. I am still afraid to break the rules, to be perfectly honest. These rules
- were so toiled over, and from the notes and what I've heard from the staff, I have every understanding
- 21 that the lack of touching the definitions was highly intentional. And so my inclination is to push back on
- 22 Law Department on this point.
- 23 Ms. Oddo: Just to clarify, comment 67 is what somebody suggested be added? And then comment 68 is
- saying, no, we shouldn't touch that right now?
- 25 Mr. Schultz: No comment 67 is saying, this is some language we'll add to help ensure that people
- understand where definitions apply and where they don't. Part of the larger story is that a large, global

- definition section has been added and changed in section one. Global meaning it defines the terms in
- 2 section two. And it was done appropriately, and it was intentionally decided that section two would not
- 3 be changed yet. And so to the extent that there may be nuance and definitions that need to apply in
- 4 one place and not another, that is an analysis that needs more attention than we want to give it while
- 5 we prioritize things. So comment 67 says, let's add this language because it will help us make it clear this
- 6 applies here and that applies there, frankly, even if they look very much the same. But right now, it's
- 7 going to take some energy to see if those differences matter or not. And then comment 68 discusses
- 8 how we're not going to do that right now.
- 9 Ms. Oddo: Okay, so 68 is saying let's not do 67 right now?
- 10 Mr. Schultz: No, sorry. 67 is saying, let's do it. And then 68 is saying, as long as we do stuff like that, we
- don't have to touch the text of the definitions.
- 12 Ms. Oddo: Okay
- 13 Mr. Schultz: So we are touching the definition section by giving it a disclaimer, but we are not going to
- add, delete, or edit the text of the definitions, other than what you see here, which is cosmetic
- 15 capitalizations.
- 16 Chairperson Hylton: What are you agreeing to do or not do, Mr. Schultz?
- 17 Mr. Schultz: Adding, after the word definitions, "For the purposes of this section, the following
- definitions apply."
- 19 Chairperson Hylton: Yes sir. I agree with that.
- 20 Mr. Schultz: Moving on to page 84. This is full of unnecessarily underlined brackets. I'm going to move
- on to 85, which we actually talked about in September.
- 22 Chairperson Hylton: Mr. Schultz, could you give me second? Can I ask the Board members for a two-
- 23 minute break? Refresh, please?
- 24 Mr. Schultz: We will not pause the recording.

- 1 Chairperson Hylton: That's right. Thank you. Two minutes and no more please. Thank you.
- 2 After the break:
- 3 Chairperson Hylton: Mr. Schultz, go ahead.
- 4 Mr. Schultz: The last substantive talk we had was on page 83. Then on page 84, I mentioned that there
- 5 were some bracket things. Then page 85 was previously discussed. Then moving on, I'm just going to go
- 6 through quickly, page 86 has a few more bracket form issues, similar to what we've discussed. Likewise,
- 7 with page 87. And I can confirm that up through page 92, all those comments are duplicative of the
- 8 bracket-underlining issue. I hope that doesn't require any conversation. Likewise, up to page 95.
- 9 When we get to page 96, there is something of not great importance. But again, I don't want any
- 10 changes to happen that the Board is not aware of. The current language literally has the word
- "promulgated" in brackets within it, which is just simply improper. It's not needed there. It's quite clear
- that the language was meant to be deleted and just wasn't, because it reads "... certified by the landlord
- in a form prescribed," brackets, "promulgated by the Loft Board." It was apparent to me that there was
- 14 a change from the word promulgated to prescribed and that the final text, literally, left that bracketed
- language in. So I think using brackets, delete, brackets is what they're going to suggest, but they're
- 16 checking the form on that.
- 17 Chairperson Hylton: Maybe the word promulgated was actually bracketed and left in there. And now
- they're deleting the word; not just the word promulgated, but the brackets also.
- 19 Mr. Schultz: Every lawyer is convinced that the word promulgated is not needed, is not meant to be
- there, with or without brackets.
- 21 Page 100 is another version of what we've already discussed. They noticed that the word family
- has...We discussed the word family when we went through 1-12. Suffice to say, there's some language
- here that is not inconsistent, but is different. Law Department points this out, and the answer there is
- 24 the answer I've given you already, which is, maybe it makes a difference; maybe it doesn't. That will
- 25 take time to figure out, and we're not going to use that time right now. This language that's highlighted,
- has not been added or edited. It exists in the rules now. It's either worked or not worked up till now. So

- 1 the assessment of if and how it works can and will be done when a wholesale review of section two is
- 2 complete. Again, I bring it up for your awareness. I bring it up as something Law Department has raised.
- 3 I'm not sure you know exactly where that's going to lead, but my understanding from the Board and
- 4 what I've inherited is that these are not things we're going to deal with right now. Any comments or
- 5 questions? We'll see that a couple more times.
- 6 Page 105. Another underlined bracket. Easy. Page 106 is, again, just definitions. This comes up three or
- 7 four more times. Law Department mentions that we've got definitions there; we've got definitions in the
- 8 global section; how do you reconcile? The answer is we will later, but not right now. This one only to
- 9 note that the language that we added before is already there. "For the purposes of this section, the
- following definitions apply." So that is the language that we added in the prior definition section. We
- don't have to add it here because it's already there. Any questions? Excellent.
- 12 Page 107. Here, there is some language that is slightly different, but it is inherited from the definitions
- that exist; it was not changed. "The following terms shall have the following definitions unless context
- clearly indicates otherwise." That's been in our rules for a long time now. Since this was drafted. This is
- not something that was changed or has been changed. Whether that language is good or bad is
- something that should get figured out. But not right now is what I've come to understand. Any
- 17 comments or questions?
- Moving on to page 115, another easy one. The word "tenant's" is there twice. It's not meant to be. It's
- there, then it's there in brackets, which means it got bracketed to be deleted, but then it also got not
- deleted. So you can look at it on page 115 in section (4) (i), three lines down, "... with the terms of the
- 21 prospective incoming tenant's tenant's offer..." One of those tenant's is quite clearly a typographical
- 22 error.
- 23 Mr. DeLaney: Can I ask a question about this?
- 24 Mr. Schultz: Sure
- 25 Mr. Delaney: We're using tenant with a capital T because it's defined.
- 26 Mr. Schultz: Yes

- 1 Mr. Delaney: And if anyone has a paper copy that's quicker to move around, could we just read the
- 2 definition of Tenant that's in the definition?
- 3 Mr. Schultz: I can do that. "Tenant refers to a residential tenant and is interchangeable with the term
- 4 Occupant in Article 7C and this Title."
- 5 Mr. Delaney: Okay, thank you. The reason I asked is because -- and many of you are not familiar with
- 6 this, but we're looking now at part of 2-07 I believe, correct?
- 7 **Mr. Schultz:** 2-07, yes
- 8 Mr. Delaney: Which relates to the sale of improvements, which is something that doesn't happen that
- 9 much anymore. The way that it was set up was that if outgoing-tenant-with-a-capital-T wanted to sell
- his or her fixtures, he or she had to get an offer from a prospective incoming tenant, which the owner
- would then have the opportunity to match, which almost always happened, as long as the owner was
- registered and didn't have fines; because if the building wasn't registered, then the owner wasn't
- allowed to challenge. Therefore, in the history, back in the day of the 80s and 90s, when we actually did
- this, the prospective incoming tenant, which we used to refer to as the PIT, was really a straw man. It
- would make an offer, and the landlord always matched the offer, because then the owner could
- deregulate the building. So, right here, I'm just musing that, in this case, prospective incoming tenant
- actually is not a tenant. So I'm wondering if making that particular tenant capital T actually makes sense.
- 18 Mr. Schultz: So first of all, thank you for that. I said to some of the staff, I know this rulemaking is
- tedious, but it does actually also create some opportunity to talk about, to learn about things a little bit.
- 20 So thank you for that, really. Do you recall that being discussed before, perhaps that's why there's an
- odd error there, because it was part of a prior conversation that was being bounced around. Do you
- remember raising this before?
- 23 Mr. DeLaney: No, I don't think we focused on it. But as I'm looking at it now... What is it that turns into a
- 24 butterfly? A silkworm?
- 25 Mr. Schultz: I didn't do great in science.

- Mr. DeLaney: So a silkworm is a prospective butterfly. But would it be a capital B butterfly if it never 1 2 becomes a butterfly? 3 Mr. Schultz: I'll give one of my favorite answers. I don't know. But we can look into that. 4 Mr. DeLaney: Okay, thanks. 5 Chairperson Hylton: Chuck, I actually think it's okay to be capitalized here because the word is.... I could 6 be wrong, obviously, but the word here is prospective, incoming. Meaning that, unless we're going to 7 capitalize prospective incoming, defining somebody else...It is pointing to a future state when that 8 capital T does refer to that person. And I understand it's not yet, but it is qualified by the word 9 prospective in front of it. But I think maybe, legally, you're correct. But I still think it's clear by being 10 qualified by the words prospective incoming. So not to belabor it, I know Mr. Schultz will look into it. 11 Mr. Schultz: Right. Well, I guess I'll only say that I know I will look into it. If any of our staff members
- Mr. Schultz: Right. Well, I guess I'll only say that I know I will look into it. If any of our staff members have a memory or clarity on it that I don't have, please speak now. Otherwise, we'll look into it. Okay, great.
- On to page 122, where we've had this conversation before, there's a definition section. Law Department is not crazy about definitions. We have a global definition section. But one thing that helps is having this language that makes it clear that this language is for this section. And the details will be addressed in the future. So that's on page 122, under 2-08 (a), which has its own definition section. Moving on to 122, there is a small formatting thing in section (1), and then also on 123 in section (2), there is a period there that is inconsistent with other sections similarly numbered. So the brackets would take away those periods. That's page 122 and 23.

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

Page 124 continues that trend with removing the periods, but before we get to that, there is a repetition of a rule. And this one is notable because it was added above with some new language, and then as you see by the underlines here on page 124, small Roman numeral two (ii), the words "special permit" are replaced wholesale to match what is used above; which is notable because we made some small changes to that. You recall, special permit, we discussed in September or October -- that special permit would mean an approval granted pursuant to a grandfathering procedure. So because that

- definition was repeated, we would want to repeat the change we discussed previously. Does that track? 1
- 2 Mute if you can. I'm not sure where that's coming from. I just got a loud noise.

3

- **Chairperson Hylton:** Was someone saying something? 4
- 5 Mr. Schultz: I had some noise, though I'm not sure from where. So I'm just going to mute some folks.
- You can unmute yourself if you're a Board member and need to speak. Also, this special permit here, 6
- 7 you'll see in the underlining, there's a second sentence that is actually unique to this section. And the
- 8 reason it exists is because it's being pulled from a footnote. A footnote that actually was, I've come to
- 9 learn, a bit of a mystery to the staff. Our own Ms. Lee is the one who found it, in an old book – literally, a
- physical book and shared it with everyone and let them know where this came from. So it's not new 10
- 11 language. The second sentence under little two (i) that reads, "Grandfathering procedures in this
- 12 classification are designated in the Zoning Resolution and include, but are not limited to, section 74-782
- As of April 7, 1983, as well as other sections that have been or will be adopted." That is not actually 13
- 14 new. It was moved from a footnote that, as I understand it, has been lost in time. Whether that
- 15 language is good or not can be reviewed when we review section two in its totality. Thoughts or
- 16 comments on that?
- 17
- **Chairperson Hylton:** This underline should not be there, you say?
- 18 Mr. Schultz: No, it should be there, because the asterisks have been deleted. So the asterisks led you to
- 19 that language. But it's being put right in the sections instead of as a footnote. So the deletion of the
- 20 asterisks call for the inclusion of the language that would lead you to the asterisks.
- 21 Ms. Roslund: The half or two thirds of the second to last line of the last sentence are not underlined. Is
- 22 that a mistake? It's highlighted but not underlined.
- 23
- Mr. Schultz: Are you on page 124?
- 24
 - Ms. Roslund: Yes
- 25
- Mr. Schultz: And you're on Roman numeral two (ii), towards the top of the page?

- 1 Ms. Roslund: Yes
- 2 Mr. Schultz: Okay, I see underlines all the way to the end of the paragraph, on mine.
- 3 Ms. Roslund: Mine, the last sentence says, "Grandfathering procedures underlined in this classification
- 4 are designated in the Zoning Resolution..." and underlined. Then the whole next line is not underlined.
- 5 Am I the only one who sees that?
- 6 **Chairperson Hylton:** Mine is fine. Do you see that, Chuck?
- 7 Mr. DeLaney: Yeah
- 8 Chairperson Hylton: So are we doing PDFs? What version do I have? Because I'm not seeing that. I'm
- 9 seeing what you...
- 10 Mr. Schultz: We're looking at printouts. So perhaps something happened in the digital version that was
- 11 unintended.
- 12 Mr. DeLaney: It should all be underlined.
- 13 Mr. Schultz: It should all be underlined. I know, personally, what I'm looking at was printed from the
- very same one I uploaded for you all. So, I'm going to chalk it up to a digital situation; not by any design.
- 15 But I'll certainly flag it to make sure that all versions reflect the underlining. Which brings us to the end.
- Done with page 124, only to note that there is the removal of periods after the number (3) and the
- 17 number (4) for consistency of formatting elsewhere. Anything else on page 124?
- Page 126 has one comment that's new in the middle. It's A118 for the members, and it's under section
- 19 little Roman numeral three (iii), capital (A). And it's simply that amongst some underlying new language,
- there is a bracketed word shall that needn't be there because the word must is there.
- 21 Chairperson Hylton: So, wait a minute.
- 22 Mr. Schultz: I didn't want to go there. I was just going to remove the brackets.

- 1 Ms. Roslund: Then you have to take out must. You know what? I checked just a while ago while we
- were talking about this earlier, and both the Zoning Resolution and the New York City Building Code use
- 3 shall.
- 4 Chairperson Hylton: That's because there are more modern updates, to the Building Code especially,
- 5 Heather. So they're more consistent with what the Law Department is requiring, which is the word shall.
- 6 But this is contrary here, right? Is this something that Law Department did not pick up here?
- 7 Mr. Schultz: I can look at their direct comment.
- 8 Chairperson Hylton: Because it seems like somebody's taken the word shall... because "[shall] must"
- 9 existed there before; the word for "[shall] must." Because they're not adding must. The whole thing has
- 10 been added.
- 11 Mr. Schultz: The edit the Law Department provides makes no comment on whether shall or must is
- appropriate. It really is just a line edit that removes the bracketed shall, because it has no place there
- from a forum standpoint.
- 14 Chairperson Hylton: Their comment is contrary to their stance, right? They prefer shall over must, right?
- 15 Mr. Schultz: I will only comment that there's one part where they changed it, and that's all I know. I
- haven't nailed it down.
- 17 Chairperson Hylton: They do. They do. The Law Department is using the word shall and not must. I
- think it's the Mayor's Office that prefers the word must. So, it seems like they're going contrary,
- 19 especially to the other comments that they made. And so we need to put the bracket around must and
- 20 leave shall.
- 21 Mr. Schultz: So all else equal, is there a preference for shall by the Board? Is that true?
- 22 Chairperson Hylton: Well, consistency. Unless it changes the thing here, right?

- 1 Mr. Schultz: Well, I'll confess. What I don't know is whether or not there was a discussion where there
- 2 is a difference in some cases, right? If it matters, I'm not sure I see it that way. But if it is this way, for a
- 3 reason....
- 4 **Chairperson Hylton:** It certainly wouldn't matter here, except for consistency, in this reading.
- 5 Mr. Schultz: If shall moves us along, it's good with me.
- 6 Chairperson Hylton: As Ms. Roslund points out, I'm very, very familiar with that in the codes and they've
- 7 moved to the word shall instead of must.
- 8 Mr. Schultz: I don't think Law Department's going to stop us. So that's fine. I'm going to move on to
- 9 page 129, which is the fifth period...
- 10 Chairperson Hylton: Before you do, we're moving brackets around must and underlining shall.
- 11 Mr. Schultz: Yes. Using the word shall and deleting the word must. Although we don't need brackets
- 12 around must; it's new language. We are simply removing the word must and inserting the word shall.
- 13 Because it's all new language. There'll be no brackets anywhere.
- 14 Chairperson Hylton: No? Oh, I got you. Thank you.
- 15 Mr. Schultz: Page 129 at the top of the page. Study area. We'll do without that period next to the (5).
- Page 134. There's the word article. This is all new language, so the bracketed word doesn't need to be
- 17 bracketed. It can just be deleted without a bracket. This is a form issue. There's no language change by
- this. Page 145. Sorry.
- 19 Chairperson Hylton: Chuck, did you say something?
- 20 Mr. DeLaney: No
- 21 Ms. Roslund: Why are we deleting the full word rather than the abbreviated word?
- Mr. Barowitz: May we go back to 134 for a minute, please?

- 1 Mr. Schultz: Of course
- 2 Chairperson Hylton: Heather, hold your comment a minute.
- 3 Ms. Roslund: Okay
- 4 **Chairperson Hylton:** Mr. Barowitz
- 5 Mr. Barowitz: I have two questions on page 134. It uses the term Artist in Residence, A.I.R. It does not
- 6 explain what it is; what it means.
- 7 Mr. Schultz: What part of the page are we on? I'm sorry.
- 8 Chairperson Hylton: At the bottom.
- 9 **Mr. Schultz:** A.I.R, yes
- 10 Mr. Barowitz: On 1 (a), the term Artist In Residence -- A.I.R -- is used, but it's not explained what it is.
- 11 Chairperson Hylton: It says, "...pursuant to directives of the Department of Buildings..." Is it defined
- 12 anywhere in our...?
- 13 Mr. Barowitz: (unclear) A.I.R referred to an original agreement back in 1960, between Mayor Wagner
- and a certain artist group, and it required that if there were two illegal lofts in a building, that there
- needed to be a designated sign of a certain size down near the door, so the Fire Department, in case
- there was a fire, could go rescue the two lofts. When the Loft Board came into existence, the two (units)
- 17 did not adhere to the Multiple Dwelling Law, so all those artists that had made --- and the landlord that
- maintained legality if only keeping two there -- were left without any protection. So the term A.I.R here
- is not explained. That's one point.
- 20 The second point I will make about that is in (1) (b), and it says, "any Residential Unit designated as joint
- 21 living working quarters for artists pursuant to the Zoning Resolution," that's taken out. So, in other
- words, the Zoning Resolution, which is something that the city had mandated for the SoHo area, which
- for reasons that we all know, after a while, everybody shut their eyes to the fact that SoHo and parts of

- 1 NoHo were artists-only designation, and other people began to move into the lofts there. So now rather
- 2 than the city taking responsibility for their lack of enforcement of the that original (designation), they've
- 3 taken out that whole section, pursuant to the Zoning Resolution. And I just find, being somebody
- 4 involved with all this housing for a long, long time, the two points here really very aggravating. And I
- 5 suppose nothing can be done about it.
- 6 Chairperson Hylton: Well, let's talk about it. Kevin, could you or someone on staff look up the
- 7 definition of Residential Unit? I'm wondering if there's reference to that there, in Residential Units.
- 8 Mr. Barowitz: And also, as far as I know -- now I'm not sure about this; maybe Chuck could help me out
- 9 the designation of joint living-working quarters for artists, is this the first time it's ever been used in all
- 10 loft laws? That is not a term that we have ever really used or adhered to.
- 11 Chairperson Hylton: I'm sorry, Mr. Barowitz. What piece are you talking about?
- 12 Mr. Barowitz: Excuse me?
- 13 Chairperson Hylton: What was the last thing you just said? Could you just say it...
- 14 Mr. Barowitz: I was saying that the term joint living-working quarters for artists, as far as I know, I don't
- think it's ever been used in the Loft Law until this point. And we certainly have never used this in terms
- of who and what we have certified in loft living, not only in SoHo-NoHo, but now it's extended to the
- other boroughs as well.
- 18 Chairperson Hylton: Well, maybe that's good reasoning then to not delete the words "pursuant to the
- 19 Zoning Resolution," because that's where...
- 20 Mr. Barowitz: What I'm saying is, they're taking it out because the city is now covering itself up in the
- 21 fact that they have not conformed to the law of the artists-only district in SoHo and, partially NoHo. And
- we all know that a lot of people have moved into that area that are not artists. On the other hand, it
- looks like the City Council will confirm the new SoHo-NoHo and Chinatown designation. It also says in
- 24 that resolution, if an artist owns a space in SoHo or NoHo and then sells it to a non-artist, they have to
- pay \$100 per square foot to some city agency, going into some of the primary institutions of art in the

- 1 city. So, I must say that, being involved in this thing for so many years, and then when I suddenly read
- 2 this in the Loft Law, I get really suspicious about why this was put in, particularly towards the end to the
- 3 whole...
- 4 Mr. Schultz: (unclear) language, actually. And I see in un-underlined language references to it on page
- 5 135, where it's cross-referenced here
- 6 Ms. Roslund: As someone who only anecdotally understands A.I.R. and the joint living-working
- 7 quarters, and (who is) not so familiar with what the qualifications or the process of becoming certified
- 8 as such are, is it because those laws don't..... Do they recognize someone as living in a commercial space
- 9 as opposed to someone living in a residential space?
- 10 Mr. Barowitz: The answer to that is neither. Except that in 1981, the Loft Law was passed, and those
- that were living in either commercial or industrial spaces in SoHo and NoHo, then were able to confirm
- themselves under the Loft Law. And as a result, most of those buildings in SoHo and NoHo have been
- out of the Loft Board at this point. And they're all basically legal now.
- 14 Ms. Roslund: Yeah, I guess my question is....so coming. Elliott, your question is, why is this language in
- 15 here?
- 16 Chairperson Hylton: It's not new.
- 17 Ms. Roslund: It's not new, right? He asked, why was it put in here? Let's take the why was it put in here;
- 18 but then the question of why is it in here at all? He also said, in no other place in the rules are these
- 19 designations referred to or in the Loft Law -- are these particular designations referred to. So it's raising
- the question of why, in this section, are they referred to? Sorry, I have to keep toggling between... So if
- a residential unit just requires that someone be using it residentially, then why does it specifically
- reference these specific types of occupancy? And my thinking... or I'm wondering, is there something in
- those specific types of occupancies that specifically preclude them from a residential definition?
- Mr. Barowitz: Heather, I really don't understand what to say. The area of SoHo, as we know, is,
- 25 generally speaking, made up of loft buildings, most of which were used some for commercial, others
- industrial. Something was going on. That happened to be the hat-and-feather area of New York City or

- 1 America. So, there were hat manufacturers and feather manufacturers. And what has happened over
- the years is that a lot of those manufacturing areas that were in the lofts of SoHo moved out. Basically,
- 3 they moved out because they realized that vertical buildings are a little bit more difficult to produce
- 4 whatever they were producing. So they moved out to flat buildings, which were a little bit more efficient
- for their enterprises. But in any event, artists began to move into those areas before 1960. And when
- 6 the Loft Law came into effect, the Loft Law was able to certify those artists that live there and made
- 7 their living in those buildings, that were mostly commercial and industrial, legal.
- 8 Chairperson Hylton: Thank you, Mr. Barowitz. I think I have a clearer understanding of why this is here.
- 9 So if you look at the very top, it talks about, "For purposes of counting Residential Units to determine
- whether the building qualifies for coverage..." Itemized under (1) are instances where they do count,
- right? Occupancies that will qualify for coverage. And they're saying, (a) " 'Artist in Residence' as
- pursuant to any DOB directive," because maybe there was a DOB directive that counts these as Artists in
- Residence. And secondly, under (b), ...Residential Unit designated as JLWQ -- joint living work quarters
- for artists -- also is there. And then "...any other residential units occupied by a sub-tenant or assignee
- of the prime tenant of such unit." So it's just saying that these instances, they do qualify for coverage,
- right? These occupancies do qualify for coverage.
- 17 **Ms. Roslund:** Right, but why are they specifically called out?
- 18 (Ms. Roslund and Mr. Barowitz speaking simultaneously. Unclear)
- 19 Mr. Barowitz: (unclear) New York buildings did not qualify for coverage. Because they were not interim
- 20 multiple dwellings. And that's not true.
- 21 (Many speaking simultaneously).
- 22 **Ms. Roslund:** We just read the rule.
- 23 Mr. Barowitz: (unclear), and as a result, they're not covered by the Loft Law.
- 24 Chairperson Hylton: Mr. Barowitz, these rules are not new.

- 1 Mr. Barowitz: Pardon?
- 2 Chairperson Hylton: These rules are not new. This is not new. This has been here. This is not something
- 3 new. Are you saying that they've never qualified for coverage? These instances?
- 4 Mr. Barowitz: They apparently...Rather recently, there was one area in Chelsea that covered a two-unit
- 5 building for coverage. Otherwise, that was not the case. And I remember when that happened. I don't
- 6 know if it was 2015, 2016. There was just one area of the city that allowed (inaudible) to be covered by
- 7 the Loft Law.
- 8 Chairperson Hylton: I got you.
- 9 Ms. Roslund: That's a different point than whether or not an A.I.R is allowed to be counted as a
- residential unit.
- 11 **Chairperson Hylton:** For the purpose of coverage.
- Mr. Barowitz: You're conflating residential with what we're doing with the Loft Board and making it
- legal to live there. A.I.Rs are illegal to this very day to live there, even though they're there. Even though
- buildings that have that sign A.I.R (inaudible) are living there, they don't come under the Loft Law.
- 15 **Chairperson Hylton:** This rule is saying...
- 16 Mr. Barowitz:except for the one small area of Chelsea in Manhattan.
- 17 Ms. Roslund: So, Chairman, I'm wondering if it allows you to register without going through the proving-
- out process. To prove that there's a residential....
- 19 Chairperson Hylton: Exactly, because they are illegal, right? Because they're illegal is why this rule is
- saying to make an exception here for these occupancies to be counted for purposes of coverage. This is
- 21 not new. It's there. Whether or not it's necessary to be there anymore, because there may or may not
- be that many, but whatever, but it's not something new, and it's just that they're making these three
- 23 exceptions -- three, I believe, right? For purposes of coverage of the building, these occupancies will
- count. This is not before us now, I don't think, right? This is not new language. It's not for us to debate.

- 1 Mr. Barowitz: That is very true. On the other hand, I don't know, I've been sitting here for at least
- 2 fifteen years, or thereabouts. We have never come across something called A point, I point, R point...
- 3 Chairperson Hylton: Exactly, because it's nowhere in the Loft Board's rules or anything like that. As
- 4 they say here, pursuant to any directives of the DOB. Apparently, somewhere in the DOB directives,
- 5 there may be some reference to A.I.R. And somewhere before your time, I guess, this rule wanted to
- 6 count them for coverage. So this rule was.... Mr. DeLaney, do you have any recollection of this at all?
- 7 Mr. DeLaney: Yes
- 8 Chairperson Hylton: Please, you have two minutes. And then Mr. Schultz will close up in five minutes
- 9 after that. Thank you
- 10 Mr. Delaney: Because of the awareness of the Multiple Dwelling Law potentially applying to these loft
- buildings that started in the late 70s with a ruling by a judge named Leonard Cohen, a lot of landlords
- went through different posturing. I'll rent you a space and you can subdivide it, but I don't know about
- it. So it's only going to be one unit, even if you move somebody in. That would be covered by (c) in this
- calculation. So what we have here is the legacy of the legal mind of Carl Weisbrod trying to clarify, back
- in 1983, various types of units that would count toward meeting the necessary number of three for Loft
- Law coverage. And rather than have people argue, oh, it's not a residential unit, it's an A.I.R unit, the
- Board at that time spelled out that A.I.R units would count, just as subdivided spaces would count, and
- anything that was designated joint living-work quarters, which I think, actually, comes from Article 7-B,
- would count. So, it was just kind of an early 80s effort to try to shut down arguments before they came
- 20 up.
- 21 Chairperson Hylton: Thank you. I thought that's what it was. But Mr. Barowitz, I hope you understand,
- 22 this is not something new before us to argue right now. And I think the Board still wants to keep this in. I
- don't see why we want to remove it or even try to modify this language. We can't do it right now,
- actually, but thank you, Mr. DeLaney, for clarifying that. Board members, I really do want to have
- respect for your time and that of the public. So, Mr. Schultz unless someone else wants to say
- 26 something....

27

- 1 Ms. Roslund: This is quick. I'm wondering why we're replacing the full word Article with the
- 2 abbreviated A,r,t period. Which maybe is not simple but again, to be consistent with other codes and
- 3 regulations... It an odd decision in my mind.
- 4 **Chairperson Hylton:** I'm sorry, where are you referring to?
- 5 Ms. Roslund: We started talking about the...
- 6 Mr. Schultz: It's everywhere. So the answer I can give, it's consistent. How it happened, would frankly
- 7 predate me. Fewer letters? If anyone remembers how or why that happened...? In this draft, I see it
- 8 several times. And I see it changed throughout.
- 9 **Chairperson Hylton:** Yeah, look at the very top of that page. Heather. You'll see the very top it says
- new language, I guess, from Art. for Article 7-C. So....
- 11 Mr. DeLaney: I think this is the Law Department in its first pass wanting to shorten Article to Art. to...
- 12 Ms. Roslund: It's not what I would choose to do, but whatever.
- 13 Chairperson Hylton: Yeah, I got it. They do some things consistently inconsistent in a way. I don't know
- 14 what they would...
- 15 Ms. Roslund: I'm all for consistency, but I guess I would go the other way. I would make everything....
- 16 Chairperson Hylton: We use the Art. here, except where it means something else somewhere else.
- 17 Maybe we can confirm the...
- 18 Mr. Schultz: I'm guessing it's not a hill we're going to die on.
- 19 Chairperson Hylton: Kevin I've eaten up some of your five minutes. Could you please just see where you
- could wrap this? Are you of the opinion that we could probably wrap the rest of this up at the next
- 21 Board meeting?
- 22 Mr. Schultz: Yes, certainly. There's not more to get through that we wouldn't be able to do our normal
- business at the next meeting and then this. Shall I continue?

- 1 Chairperson Hylton: Until 4:30? Unless the Board members...
- 2 Mr. Schultz: I didn't know if I should stop or are not.
- 3 Chairperson Hylton: Board members, this is where the Chair is being very democratic here. Does
- 4 anyone feel like they wouldn't go into 4:30? I'm fine with it. Yes?
- 5 Mr. Schultz: All right. So there aren't a lot of hard turns left. In fact, we might get through it. Page 145 is
- 6 another matter of form, deleted language comes before added language. Page 151 is a bunch of
- 7 underlined brackets, nothing to talk about. Page 152 is the same. More underlined brackets. Page 165 --
- 8 and just to be clear, when I skip pages, there is no comment that we haven't already talked about, if any
- 9 comment. Page 165. There's a comment here that I'm not sure is ripe, actually, for me to give a
- recommendation. Law Department has asked, when we say, insert a date, what the intended date is.
- Often there's language surrounding it that says, insert date within ninety days of the passage of this rule,
- or otherwise. Here and in other places, I've seen deleted language that gave me some indicia of what is
- intended here. I do not know what is intended here, to be perfectly honest. I think unless someone has
- an instant suggestion, I will reserve this till next time, when I can come with a recommendation. If we
- had more time, I might ask veteran members for thoughts on it, but I don't think we're at a point in the
- meeting where that's going to be productive.
- 17 Suffice to say, the date needs to be clarified, and I don't yet know what the right answer is. So that will
- 18 probably be tabled, unless someone has the answer now. And I will say, you can see items here that I
- included, yet they're not resolved with a recommendation. That is because I want you to have
- everything Law Department has shared is in front of you now. This is the universe. I did it piecemeal up
- 21 until now, but this is everything. Page 166 is more underlined brackets.
- 22 Chairperson Hylton: Back to 165. Is there a reason why we couldn't find that out easily, in terms of (D),
- the date the IMD unit becomes covered under 281(5)?
- 24 Mr. Schultz: I am guessing, and I don't want to guess publicly, that it's going to be the date of the
- passage of this rule. That's the trend I think I see in (A) through (C).

26

- 1 Chairperson Hylton: Right. So, isn't that something we could put in now until the rule is actually
- 2 passed? Is that what you're saying?
- 3 Mr. Schultz: Well, it's supposed to indicate the date that this rule will be passed, I think, right? And so
- 4 whether it's a side note or something, I think the Law Department wants to know what date is intended
- 5 there. Which is a fair question. And the fact that it can't be answered immediately means it's a good
- 6 question. And I don't want to tell you until I'm sure, and I didn't have time to get sure before today.
- 7 That's it. I think it will be the date that the rules are passed, because previously, it discusses September
- 8 11, 2013, which is the prior rulemaking amendment adoption date. But I don't want to be wrong.
- 9 Chairperson Hylton: So what the Law Department is saying is -- if what you're saying here is correct --
- 10 what we should be putting here is insert the date, the effective date of the amended rule. That language
- should be right there.
- 12 Mr. Schultz: Yeah, and adding that language is helpful, because if they had added it under (C) back in
- 13 2013, I'd know what the trend is. So when someone adds another one after it in the year 2035, they'll
- 14 know why that date matters with a lot of specificity.
- 15 **Chairperson Hylton:** Okay
- 16 Mr. Schultz: It's not a ripe recommendation yet. But I'm inclined to think that's going to be the inclusion
- of that language that's in the margin.
- 18 Chairperson Hylton: So that's something you and your staff need to iron out?
- 19 Mr. Schultz: Yes, that's correct. And I'll make it my goal to do before November 18th, if I can. Any
- comments or questions on that? Page 166 and 167 are underlined brackets. Page 168 is the inclusion of
- 21 some language. This goes back to what I just said. This is where the previous iteration -- Sorry, I'm in
- 22 section (b) (1) with Roman numerals one through four (i-iv). There's basically a section there for each
- 23 iteration of the MDL. And to update it consistently, it should say under Roman numeral four (iv), "MDL
- 24 2-81(6), which occurs on or after insert date, the effective date of this amended rule." So it's simply the
- 25 insertion of the word amended, which is consistent with other sections. And it's consistent with what
- you see directly above that's been deleted. So it's adding the word amended for consistency's sake.

- 1 I'm going to skip page 169, because I made an error in my comment, and it's just going to be simpler to
- 2 fix it for next time than to try to explain it, because we're going to have at least a couple things to talk
- 3 about next time. So if you don't mind, I'm going to save page 169, that comment, for next time. And
- 4 page 171, Prime Lessee should be underlined. It's been defined and capitalized, so it needs to be
- 5 underlined as added language, at the bottom of page 171, small section three (iii). It's a format form
- 6 change, not a language change.
- 7 And my last tab is on page 175, which is what we've already talked about. Page 175 under Rent
- 8 Adjustments, section 2-12 is another definition section, where it's recommended that we add the
- 9 language, for the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply. And then we do not move,
- 10 alter, delete, change or add whatever is already in the current version of the definition. Changes that are
- in those definitions are cosmetic for consistency, and substantive review can wait until we get the 2019
- amendments passed. I know I went fast there at the end...
- 13 Ms. Roslund: We have one more minute.
- 14 Mr. Schultz: We can certainly revisit anything that I went too fast on. Please, you can follow up with me
- directly or we can talk about it at the next meeting.
- 16 Mr. DeLaney: Can you quickly explain what 179 through 182 is attempting to do?
- 17 Mr. Schultz: Yeah, it's all deleted. When we spoke in September, the definition of the word family was
- talked about. And I included this not as any sort of amendment; it was for reference, and I put it on the
- same document to try to make life easy. It is simply a copy and paste of a section of our rules that is not
- 20 being amended. But for that conversation we had in September, I thought perhaps members would
- want to reference it. I will remove it, lest it accidentally show up. There's no changes there. Thank you,
- everybody. Any other questions?
- 23 Chairperson Hylton: Very good, Mr. Schultz. You did excellent.
- 24 Mr. Schultz: Thank you. Thank you, everybody. I always learn a lot when I do this with you.
- 25 Ms. Roslund: Interesting session

- 1 Chairperson Hylton: Yeah, it was really great, spirited, and I appreciate everybody's involvement in the
- 2 rules. Starting to like lawyers. Just joking. We're going to close now. Before we wrap up, are there any
- 3 comments from anyone? We should be familiar with each other nowadays. We're meeting very
- 4 frequently. So any comments from anyone? I certainly want to thank Mr. Schultz and his staff.
- 5 Mr. Schultz: I need to interrupt you because I need to say I don't get here without the staff. A lot of the
- 6 untangling that I just said out loud, that was a lot of behind-the-scenes assistance from the staff. Mr.
- 7 DeLaney mentioned the work Mr. Argov had done with OATH; there was the big discovery Ms. Lee made
- 8 about grandfathering going back a while; and Mr. Clarke and Ms. Lin sat here in my office and fed me
- 9 the right answers to give you here today. In fact, some very big ones. They gave me course and
- direction from both their experience and instincts. I cannot thank them enough. I did all the talking, but
- 11 I did not do all the work. Far from it.
- 12 Chairperson Hylton: Thank you. And thank you to both legal and administrative staff for putting this all
- together. I appreciate it. I think we did make headway in getting to where we are. I realize we're not
- done yet, but there's some light at the end of the tunnel. So I appreciate that.
- 15 This will conclude our November 4th, 2021, Loft Board meeting. Our next public meeting will be held
- two weeks from now, on Thursday, November 18th, 2021, at 2pm. The Governor's suspension of the in-
- person meeting requirement of the Open Meetings Law is in effect until January 15th, 2022. So at this
- 18 time, we anticipate that Loft Board meetings will continue to be held virtually. Information will be
- updated on the Loft Board's website, and also an email update will be sent through the Loft Board's
- announcements, Listserv. Board members, please sign and email in your attendance sheets. Thank you,
- everyone. Have a great afternoon.