

BOARD OF ETHICS

The Board of Ethics held a special meeting on December 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. which was called to order by Chairperson Tom Fitzpatrick in the Library Conference Room at 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT.

Present from the Board: Sheila Hennessey, Tom Fitzpatrick, Heidi Lane, Mark Dean and John O'Leary and alternate Board members John Lepper and Lorinda Coon.
Attorney for the Board – Attorney Andy Houlding

Present for the Respondents – Attorney Elliott Gersten for Respondent 1 and Attorney Ray Hassett for Respondent 2.

The Chair called the meeting to order and a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting to go into executive session for legal and procedural advice. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board went into executive session at 7:05 and reconvened at 8:00.

Attorney Hassett asked that the meeting be closed to the public, unless and until a probable cause finding is determined. Attorney Gersten also requested that the meeting be closed to the public. A motion was made to exclude the public from the meeting and seconded and the motion passed 4-1, at which time the public left the room.

After the public left the meeting, there was discussion over the service of the complaint to the respondents. It was concluded that the complaint had not been served by certified mail as required by Section 10-73(C) of the Town of Wethersfield Code of Ethics. A motion was made and seconded that the complaint be dismissed without prejudice, due to defective service, with leave for the Complainants to refile their complaint. The motion passed 5-0.

There was discussion concerning the minutes of the special meeting of October 22, 2009. The Board tabled the discussion of the minutes until certain legal issues have been resolved.

Submitted this 30th day of December 2009.

By Heidi Lane, Secretary