

DRAFT
Board of Ethics
Meeting Minutes for October 11, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 a.m., with Jack Light, Juan Negroni, and Arne de Keijzer (Chairman) present.

Mr. de Keijzer reviewed the routine work of the Board since the last meeting, which included the mailing of Weston's Code of Ethics to all town employees and the heads of elected and appointed Boards and Commissions.

Mr. de Keijzer also reported that Jeffrey Eglash had resigned from the Board in anticipation of his being selected for the Police Commission. A detailed discussion ensued on how best to convey our view to the Selectmen of what we would consider to be key attributes for a replacement. It was agreed that the Chairman would notify the First Selectman of the opening and ask him how the selection process works at this point. Mr. de Keijzer also would urge, on behalf of the Board, the selection of someone who, in addition to being qualified, would help perpetuate the collegial tone and the drive toward consensus that pervades our work.

On another matter, the Chairman reported that he had been contacted by two members of the Weston League of Women Voters. The League played a key role in the formation of Weston's Code of Ethics and almost all their recommendations were incorporated into the Code and the Board's rules and regulations save one dealing with a timeline for dealing with the Board's cases. The question they had was: is it time to implement one?

After some discussion, the Board found it favored retaining the current phrasing ("shall act as promptly as feasible"), especially since some cases might be complex and require detailed investigation. Nevertheless, the Board will acknowledge receipt of complaints promptly and the Chairman will check with the State Board of Ethics to see if there is a regulation for this and/or a "standard practice."

The Board then returned to the question of how best to ensure that not only the heads of Boards and Commissions are aware of the Code but their colleagues as well. It was agreed that Mr. de Keijzer would ask the Town Clerk and the Town Administrator to follow this up and urge both to send the Code to any person who is newly elected or appointed to all Boards and Commissions.

With no additional business before it, Mr. Negroni moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Light. The meeting was duly adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arne J. de Keijzer
Chairman