TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

ETHICS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015

TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

Minutes

Present: Chairman Whitney Fielding, Vice Chairman James Valad, Kurt Comisky and Mary Ann Meehl

**Call to Order& Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Fielding called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Valad, seconded by Mr. Comisky, to approve the minutes of the Ethics Commission meeting of April 15, 2015. Voted (4-0)

**Chairman’s Communications**

Letters were received from Dr. Margaret Faber requesting advisory opinions related to a recent Middle Haddam Historic District Commission meeting. The letters will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk’s Office.

**Discussion of Letter to Boards and Commissions**

Revisions were made to the letter for Board and Commissions. The letter will be revised and emailed out. A copy will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk’s Office.

**Discussion of Advisory Opinion Requests**

The Commission members discussed the letters received from Dr. Margaret Faber for advisory opinions. Procedurally, advisory opinions can be requested by town employees and by board and commission members. Dr. Faber is neither. Both letters refer to a meeting of the Middle Haddam Historic District Commission where an application for the expansion of the Middle Haddam Library is presented. One asks about the possible conflict of interest of a commission member whose wife is on the library board. The other refers to a possible conflict of interest for a commission member who does excavation work for the library when needed. The Commission members discussed what should be done with the letters as they don’t fall into the advisory opinion rules. The Commission members felt they would like more information regarding Dr. Faber’s concerns. Chairman Fielding will write a letter acknowledging receipt of the letters and will invite Dr. Faber to attend the next meeting to obtain additional information. He will also call Dr. Faber to explain the situation and to notify her that the information contained in the letters is not confidential.

**Discussion of Ethics Complaint Process**

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ms. Meehl, seconded by Mr. Valad, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45. Voted (4-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois

Recording Secretary