

**VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**  
**APRIL 7, 2015**

An Organizational Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 7:35 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Peter Swiderski, Trustee Bruce Jennings, Trustee Marjorie Apel, Trustee Meg Walker, Trustee Nicola Armacost, Trustee Daniel Lemons, Village Manager Francis A. Frobel, Village Attorney Linda Whitehead, and Village Clerk Susan Maggiotto

**CITIZENS:** Sixteen (16).

**Mayor Swiderski:** The first order of an organizational meeting is administration of oath of office. To this point in time, after six years of continuous service and a fourth at another two, I will be asking Trustee Jennings to swear me in as Mayor as his last official act as Trustee. Six and a half years ago, when I decided to run for Mayor, I reached out to Bruce who had lost his previous election. I felt strongly that there had not been a more reasoned, ethical, nuanced-vote voice on the Board as long I have served up here. I asked him, only half believing he would say yes, and was delighted when he chose to run with me. Since that point in time, Bruce has served exactly that role on this board. He has been an ethical anchor. He does not talk much, but whenever he does it is worth listening to. I am going to miss him greatly. He has got accomplishments over the last six years, the biggest one of which is shepherding the Green Building Code through to completion; what turned out to be an monumental effort was marched all the way to fruition by his stewardship. I count Bruce as a friend, as an inspiration, a true scholar. I have lost track of how many dozens of books he has published. A real voice of authority on this board, and he will be missed.

Bruce, for everything you have done for us, for everything you have worked so hard for us, I thank you.

**Trustee Armacost:** I would like to echo everything the Mayor has said, and to say that I have, in my time as Trustee, had the privilege of sitting next to Bruce, which means that when things come up where there is a historical perspective that I am clueless about Bruce inevitably knows the history. And he has a witty, funny, wise and thoughtful take on the various things that have come up. We have had lots of great discussions about topics that have come up here, and then other philosophical discussions in the world that Bruce has all sorts of amazingly erudite thoughts about. It has been a pleasure to serve with you, Bruce, and I will certainly miss you. I am sure I will be sending you e-mails saying what on earth are they talking about. Thank you again so much for all of your service to the Village, and your friendship and support of all of us.

**Trustee Walker:** I want to echo the two previous speeches. But I also want to say that Bruce is a professor of political theory, environmental ethics, and bioethics among other things. He has taught me so much since I have been on the Board with him about ethics in all its various forms, including ethics of place, environmental ethics, political-governmental ethics. I learned a lot on the Board and out of this room from Bruce, and I am very appreciative of that. Just his reasoning and his wisdom are so remarkable. You are going to be so missed, Bruce. I know some of us are just going to have to fill your shoes, but I am not sure how we can do it. So thank you so much for your tremendous service to the Village and to all of us.

**Trustee Apel:** It's all been said already, but for myself, Bruce has brought a calmness to the Board. When you sit here and you hear all the things that are presented to us, and as agitated and riled you might feel, I know that if you ask Bruce to talk on the topic he will bring it down a notch, and very calmly be able to summarize what is going on so beautifully. Where I might get uptight he says it so beautifully with the right words. It makes you feel so calm and comforted. I do not know how you comfort everybody, Bruce, when you talk, and you are able to summarize and bring out the right points. Sometimes I feel, as Meg had said, that we will be sitting here and I am going to want to speed dial you and say, Bruce, I hope you are watching, what is going on here? Not everybody has that gift, the gift of words that you have brought to us on the Board, and to the Village. We are going to sorely miss you for that, and for your charm and your humor and your stories. We do hope you will come visit often, and that you have an opportunity to have some time for yourself because you have been so giving to the Village. Thank you for everything you have done.

**Village Manager Frobel:** Bruce, on behalf of all the men and women who work for the Village, I want to thank you for your service. I want to thank you for always keeping an eye out for us, being sensitive to our needs and very appreciative of the work they do for the Village. I, too, am going to miss you dramatically, as I have told you in the past. I also want to thank you for the confidence you showed when you were part of the Board of Trustees that hired me 10 years ago. I truly thank you for that. Good luck to you, Bruce.

**Trustee Jennings:** What can I say? These remarks say more than I could about why I have found it so rewarding and fulfilling to serve as a Trustee. The people on this board and in this village government are caring and gracious and thankful people. It has been a pleasure to be associated with them and to work with them, and it has been a real honor for me to be among people who try very hard not only to enhance and improve their own lives, but also to enhance and improve the lives of others. That is what public service exposes one to, and I feel very blessed and grateful to have had that experience. Thank you very much for your support, everybody in Hastings. And I will just watch the Board of Trustees and if they run amok I will try to do something about it.

[ Mayor Swiderski presents a gift to Trustee Jennings]

**Trustee Jennings:** A Hastings-on-Hudson decanter for Jack Daniels Tennessee whiskey. Thank you very much.

**Mayor Swiderski:** Since you are headed to Tennessee, a token our affection, and when you raise a glass in the future you are going to think of us.

### **ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE**

Trustee Jennings administered the oath of office to Mayor Swiderski.

Mayor Swiderski administered the oath of office to Trustee Walker, Trustee Lemons, and Acting Village Justice DeVita.

### **23:15 MAYORAL AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTMENTS**

On MOTION of Trustee Armacost, SECONDED by Trustee Walker the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

**A. DEPUTY VILLAGE TREASURER**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Rafael Zaratian** as Deputy Village Treasurer for a term of two (2) official years.

**B. VILLAGE CLERK**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Susan Maggiotto** as Village Clerk for a term of two (2) official years.

**C. ACTING VILLAGE JUSTICE**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **James R. DeVita** as Acting Village Justice for a term of one (1) official year.

**D. REGISTRAR**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Susan Maggiotto** as Registrar and **Linda Loeb** as Deputy Registrar for a term of two (2) years through April 30, 2017.

**E. HISTORIAN**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Barbara Thompson** as Village Historian for a term of one (1) official year.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

**AYE**

**NAY**

Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Trustee Daniel Lemons	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

**24:15 MAYORAL AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES DESIGNATIONS**

On MOTION of Trustee Armacost, SECONDED by Trustee Apel the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

**A. OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate the **Rivertowns Enterprise** and the **Journal News** as official newspapers for a term of one (1) official year.

**B. OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate **Hudson Valley National Bank, JP Morgan Chase Bank, Citibank, N.A., , and MBIA-Class** as official depositories for a term of one (1) official year.

**C. POLICE AND FIRE SURGEONS**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Dorian Tergis, M.D.** and **Partners in Safety** as Police and Fire Surgeons for a term of one (1) official year each, to be compensated on a fee or contract basis.

**D. REGULAR MEETING DAYS**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate the **first and third Tuesday of each month** as the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting days.

**E. AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN CHECKS AND INSTRUMENTS**

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the following to sign checks and instruments of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, when countersigned by the Mayor or one (1) Trustee:  
**Francis A. Frobel, Susan Maggiotto**  
except individual payroll checks which shall require one (1) of the following signatures:  
**Francis A. Frobel, Susan Maggiotto**

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Trustee Daniel Lemons	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

**25:15 EXECUTIVE SESSION POLICY**

On MOTION of Trustee Apel, SECONDED by Trustee Armacost the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the Executive Session Policy as follows:

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson to conduct Village business in an open fashion and to make available as much information as may legally and practically be disseminated.

The New York Open Meetings Law authorizes the Board to conduct business in executive session in a number of areas. These include:

1. Matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed;
2. Matters which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer;
3. Information relating to criminal investigations;
4. Discussions relating to proposed, pending or current litigation;
5. Collective bargaining negotiations;
6. Personnel matters; and
7. The proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or securities.

The Board recognizes that it is authorized to use Executive Sessions in these situations, but will do so with restraint.

To maintain confidentiality and to encourage the uninhibited discussion of the subjects of Executive Sessions, the specific subject matter and any statements made or positions taken by all participants must remain confidential and may not be disclosed by any participant unless and until a majority of the Board votes to authorize the release thereof by the Board.

It has been and continues to be the practice of the Board that all members of the Board, acting together, come to agreement by consensus on the specific information which is to be released to the public, the suitable vehicle for reporting that information, and the timing of the reporting.

The Village Clerk (or designee) shall take minutes of each executive session, such minutes to consist only of the following:

1. Date of resolution calling for the executive session;
2. Date, place, and time of executive session;
3. Names of persons present;
4. Broad description of subjects discussed (e.g. personnel, pending litigation); and
5. If any action is taken by formal vote, a summary of the final determination of such action and a record of the vote, in accordance with Public Officers Law 106.

Minutes shall be approved at the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

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Adopted by the Board of Trustees on September 28, 1993.  
Revised November 20, 2007.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Trustee Daniel Lemons	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

### **26:15 RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**Mayor Swiderski:** There is a document attached. It has not been modified. There have been pending requests to modify that document, and we may choose to discuss that at another meeting. In the interest of brevity, that will not occur tonight.

On MOTION of Trustee Walker, SECONDED by Trustee Armacost the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the Rules of Procedure as attached.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Trustee Daniel Lemons	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

### **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**Mayor Swiderski:** We have two new appointments. The Citizens Advisory Committee welcomes Nancy Balaban to a three-year term. The Tree Board welcomes Wayt Thomas to fill a term expiring in 2016.

We have the following reappointments: David Jackowe to the Advisory Committee for the Disabled; Robert Kornfeld to the Architectural Review Board; Nancy DeNatale and Susan Soriano to the Village Arts Commission; Abba Tor to the Building Board; Kerry-Jane King, Sharon Kivowitz-Siegel and Elisa Zazzera to the Conservation Commission; Mitch Koch, Thomas Lee, Sue Smith and Barbara Thompson to the Draper Park Review Board; Maureen Cole and Harrison Bloom to the Ethics Board; Lauren Casper and Jaqueline Price-Weitzman to the Library Board of Trustees; Gloria Brkich, Eugenela Calamari, John Dailey and Joanne Baecher-DiSalvo to the Parks and Recreation Commission; Eva Alligood and Kathleen Sullivan to the Planning Board; Sandy Selikson to the Board of Police Commissioners; Greg Bassman to the Safety Council; Paula Scheiber to the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee; Tim Downey to the Tree Preservation Board; and Elizabeth Gabay and Reverend Anna Pearson to the Youth Council. To all those who have served so many years, often with little thanks and with much effort, we thank you for time spent and time to be spent.

I believe that constitutes the business of the organizational meeting. Congratulations to all, welcome aboard.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On MOTION of Trustee Walker, SECONDED by Trustee Armacost with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Swiderski adjourned the Organizational Meeting at 8:00 p.m.