

NEW DURHAM ETHICS COMMITTEE

PRESENT: Ellen Phillips, Carol Allen, Joan Swenson, Dot Veisel

EXCUSED: Monica Haley

LOCATION: New Durham Library

DATE: August 11, 2015

TIME: 7:00

PUBLIC INPUT: None

The committee reviewed and discussed the feedback from NHMA concerning language in the current Ethics Policy which addresses the composition of the Ethics Committee. The Board of Selectmen rejected our proposed amendment, “Members may be public servants,” citing the opinion from NHMA. After discussion the committee agreed we needed additional input and guidance on this statement: “One member may be a public servant.” [SECTION IV The Formation of the Ethics Committee.]

Ellen Phillips moved, Carol Allen seconded:

Joan Swenson will craft a follow-up letter to be sent to Bart Mayer and Attorneys at NHMA requesting additional clarification of their interpretation of the Ethics Committee composition.

There was no follow-up discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Board of Selectmen rejected the proposed language to be added to Section VI
COMPLAINTS: “Citizen (or all other) complaints shall be addressed promptly by the Board of Selectmen and a decision provided in a timely fashion.” Their objection concerned the lack of a specific timeline for a decision to be provided. The committee discussed changing “in a timely fashion” to “within one (1) month.” Joan will draft alternative language for review. The goal is to have a new proposal ready for a September meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Carol Allen moved, seconded by Joan Swenson,

Motion to adjourn at 7:40.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Veisel

