

Erie County Ethics Board
November 2, 2020: Meeting Minutes
Conference Room 1419A (DPW)- Rath Building

MEMBERS: Steven Schwartz, Chair
Chris Trapp, Vice-Chair
Rebecca Town, Secretary
Brian Downey
Ellen Kennedy

STAFF: Leslie Ortiz-Fogg, Counsel
David Bojanowski, Support

EXCUSED:

OTHERS PRESENT: Ross Kostecky, Legislature Office (recording)

1. Meeting call to order at 8:11 am.
2. October 2020 meeting minutes reviewed and approved on motion of Trapp seconded by Kennedy.
3. Website / Email Updates:
 - i. Request for opinions/actions: No requests
 - ii. Updates to website: Minutes and agenda
 - iii. No new FOIL Requests
 - iv. Other communications call received from a media group requesting information on the filing process and requested a list of who are required to file.
4. New Business:
 - i. General Review of Financial Disclosure for use in 2021 led to changes in the language of the form intended to clarify categories of dependents that should be listed. Ex. Page 4c family will be changed to spouse, domestic partner or dependent children. The Board also considered whether the disclosure should ask questions related to nepotism when the law does not provide an enforcement mechanism.
 - ii. Ortiz-Fogg presented on barriers to using electronic signatures on Disclosures, including a lack of access to programs that work for the county and have an erie.gov email address. Motion for the Board to begin accepting faxed and scanned signed copies of disclosures made by Downey, seconded and passed unanimously.
 - iii. Next meeting scheduled for Monday December 2, 2020 cancelled. January 4, 2021 will be the next meeting.
5. Public Comments: Happy Holidays
6. Motion to adjourn at 9:08 am by Trapp seconded by Kennedy.