

Erie County Ethics Board
Meeting Agenda

February 7, 2022 8:30 a.m:

Budget Conference Room (16th Floor) – Rath Building

Members: ___ Chris Trapp, Chair
 ___ Brian Downey, Vice Chair
 ___ Ellen Kennedy
 ___ Steven Schwartz

Staff: ___ Leslie Ortiz-Fogg Counsel
 ___ Kayla Witherspoon

Excused: ___ Heather Gresham

Others Present: Taunya Abaya

1. Meeting called to order at 8:32AM.
2. January 2022 meeting Minutes for review, corrections and approval*
-motion by Schwartz, seconded by Downey
3. Website / Email Updates (Witherspoon/Chair):
 1. Request for opinions/actions:
 - a. Submission of form prior to January 1st -- The disclosure will be reviewed at the March 7th meeting.
 - b. Village of Williamsville -- newly appointed Board of Trustees member; potential conflict with Life Storage employment and relationship to Williamsville Mayor; Board of Ethics right to intervene would be based on Williamsville's lack of its own Ethics board
-- Ortiz-Fogg and Downey to review Village of Williamsville's code of ethics
 2. Updates to website: Minutes, agenda
 3. FOIL Requests-NONE
 4. Other communications: The Erie County Probation department is included in 2021 Financial Disclosure form filing
4. Old Business:
 1. Letter requesting Chief Ethics Office to County Executive --meeting scheduled with County Executive's office for Jan. 30th
 2. Printing of Disclosures
 3. Request names from Department Heads, Boards, Offices: January 2022
 4. Return of department lists -- February 25, 2022--Witherspoon still receiving updates to department lists
 5. Distribution of Financial Disclosures: April 1, 2022
 6. Date for return of completed Disclosures: May 16, 2022--review Disclosures at June 6, 2022 meeting
 7. Conditional Release Commission--active commission; names of Board members who implement policy-could be required to fill out State level form instead; Ortiz-Fogg will check if Commission is involved in policy-making
5. New Business:
 1. Review of Law 2 (2018) and Board of Ethics Rules and Regulations--contradiction on changing rules 1.6 and 10.8-voting based on quorum; Section 9--no limitations on financial contributions to the Board
 2. Next meeting scheduled for Monday March 7, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.--turning in department lists to Board to prepare for Disclosure review
6. Public Comments--replacement from Legislature for recordings TBA
7. Motion to adjourn--9:12AM-motion by Downey, seconded by Kennedy