Pending Committee Approval
Law, Rules and Ethics Committee
Minutes
June 8, 2026
Meeting Recording

1, Meeting called to order at 7:43PM – Since there were committee members seeking to watch the Knicks game, the agenda was amended and curtailed
2. Attendance:
   Present (6): Martin Wolpoff, Chair, Steve Froot, Vice-Chair, Sylvia Alexander, Sergio Villaverde, Jessica Sosa, Jyll Townes (via Zoom, ADA)
   Absent (1): Charles Moerdler (participated via Zoom)
   Guests: Julie Reyes. Board chair, Laura Spalter, Steve Matthews, Cliffton Smith
3. Approval of May 11, 2026, minutes
   Vote to approve -unanimous.
4. Discussion of language for amending the Ethical Guidance Manual
   The full board voted to amend the EGM to include an item requiring the board chairperson to use the city-provided email address for all email correspondence. The approved resolution did not provide the language for such inclusion. The committee approved an edited draft provided by the chair. The full board needs to agree to the language at the June meeting.

Resolution: Whereas**,** on May 12, 2026, community board 8 voted to amend the Ethical Guidance Manual to include guidelines on the use by the board chairperson of the city authorized email address,
Resolved that the following item be included in the EGM. (as attached)

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Part V

Community Board Administration

1. Board Chair's Use of City-issued E-Mail address
2. Nominating Committee

Part V.

1. Board Chair's Use of City-issued E-Mail Address

a) The Board Chair shall use only an official New York City agency email address, provided by the Office of Technology & Innovation (OTI), or an equivalent New York City agency or authority, when acting on behalf of the Board, for all correspondence, communications, and actions taken in their official capacity as Chair of the Community Board.
b) This policy applies to, but is not limited to, communications with elected officials, city agencies, community partners, members of the public, and other Community Board members when conducted in an official capacity.
c) The email address used by the Board Chair shall be maintained and administered in a manner that ensures continuity of access upon any change in leadership,

d) The District Manager shall work with the Board Chair to ensure proper setup, access, and transition protocols are in place for the official email account.
e) The foregoing shall be communicated to all Board Chairs and shall be included in any onboarding materials provided to future Chairs.
(Revised 6/26)

The committee voted on how to address the title chairperson language
Vote Results:
"Chair" - 1 (Wolpoff), "Board Chair" – 3 (Sosa, Froot, Villaverde), "Board Chairperson" – 2 (Alexander, Townes)

5. Review of Roberts Rules v. City Charter
Committee chair re-reviewed Robert's Rules vs. the City Charter with respect to voting. The City Charter takes precedence requiring that All **present and eligible to vote** be polled and abstentions are equivalent to "No" votes. Requiring that all votes count, there was agreement to do follow-up research on the hypothetical occurrence when enough people declared "Present, ineligible to vote" reduced the quorum needed to take a vote?

The chair felt very strongly that we needed to view the tapes of past meetings to see if there was selective use of Robert's Rules that may have caused, not prevented, some disruptions of meetings.

Does the chair have the discretion to interrupt a speaker after giving them the floor to speak? For our next meeting, he believed we should do an "autopsy" of the May Full Board Meeting.

There was also discussion on how we do quorum counts.

6. Laid over items
   A. Analysis of data from LRE poll
   B. Board members communicating with members of the press.
   C. Award for committee on Veterans Award
   D. Latest from COIB
   E. NYC Council Legislative Spreadsheet
   F. Unfinished Business
   G. New Business
7. Adjournment 8:45

Next Meeting – Monday, September 14, 2026

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Sosa

Edited and approved,
Martin Wolpoff, Chair