

**Law, Rules and Ethics Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
February 25, 2016  
Community Board Office**

**Attendance**

**Present: Martin Wolpoff, Chair, I. W. Stone, Sylvia Alexander, Rosemary Ginty, Robert Press, Mary Yamagata, Herb Young**

**Absent: Irving Ladimer, Philip Friedman,**

**Meeting called to order at 7:10**

1. **Approval of October minutes** – Except for correction of the misspelling of Yamagata, committee voted to accept the minutes as distributed  
In favor: 7- Martin Wolpoff, I. W. Stone, Sylvia Alexander, Rosemary Ginty, Robert Press, Mary Yamagata, Herb Young  
Against: 0    Abstention: 0

In deference to Purim, next meeting will be on March 31 in the Board office.

2. **Matters arising from the minutes:** No discussion
  3. **Review of COIB findings** – There were no COIB dispositions to discuss
  4. **Review of City Council legislative spreadsheet** – Spreadsheets prepared by Ms. Ginty distributed and reviewed. Special attention addressed to 1049-2016, signed by the mayor, requiring DOB to notify community boards of C of O change requests, series to transform misdemeanors to civil fines, 1059-2016 to permit administrative judges to impose “community service” in lieu of fines, and series concerning tobacco products sale.
  5. **Discussion of response from COIB and BP** – Chairman contacted COIB requesting clarification on use recusal and if a board member’s leaving the room to avoid voting impacts the quorum. The response was that these were outside the purview of Chapter 68. Thus, these were not “for Cause” issues.
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5. **Update on CB Guidelines** – Mr. Ladimer was absent from meeting.
  7. **Old Business** – Bill Stone inquired on actions taken when committee members are absent from three or more meetings. Chair reported that, in the past, he had contacted committee members involved and, upon their response or lack thereof, contacted board chair for action toward removal.

8. **New Business** – Chairman felt that committee should discuss a communication from a board member to the board chair concerning the need for “reconstructed” minutes for

one committee that had not submitted them. The issue appears to be whether there is an obligation for all board chairs to maintain a public record, whether with or without a quorum, of meetings, attendance, and issues discussed relative to the items identified in public meeting announcements. The chair felt that there was no need for the committee to act since the executive committee had already unanimously reaffirmed its minutes-requirement position.

9. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Wolpoff,  
Chair

Additional notes provided by Rosemary Ginty