

**SCHOOL ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

MARCH 27, 2018

Chairperson Robert Bender called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Notice of the meeting was provided to the State House Press Corps and the Secretary of State and filed as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. In attendance were School Ethics Commission (Commission) members Michael Carucci, Michael Collins, Mark Finkelstein, Dan Kaplan, Dennis Roberts, Jude Tanella, Richard Tomko, and Chairperson Bender.

Also in attendance were Kathryn Whalen, Director, Offices of School Ethics and Compliance, staff members Jeannine Pizzigoni and Karin Molnar, along with Deputy Attorney General Donna Arons

9:37 a.m. Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Michael Carucci, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss confidential matters and to obtain legal advice regarding the following complaints and matters involving possible litigation: C89-17, C90-17, C01-18, C02-18, C05-18, D05-17, D06-17, D07-17, C29-16, C74-17, C85-17, A23-17, A10-18, A11-18, A13-18, A15-18, A14-18, A04-18, A05-18, A06-18, A07-18, A08-18, A09-18, C06-18, C13-18 and an update on the status of Senate Bill No. 868. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

12:04 p.m. Open Session

Complaints

C89-17 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to draft a decision as discussed. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

C90-17 Motion was made by Michael Collins, and seconded by Dan Kaplan, to draft a letter decision as discussed. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

C01-18 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to draft a decision as discussed. Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 1 – Abstention (Dennis Roberts abstained)

C02-18 Motion was made by Mark Finkelstein, and seconded by Michael Carucci, to draft a letter decision as discussed. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

C05-18 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Michael Carucci, to table this matter, and to consolidate it with C04-18. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

Orders to Show Cause

D05-17 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to adopt the decision in this matter as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

D06-17 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to adopt the decision in this matter as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

D07-17 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to adopt the decision in this matter as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

Complaints (continued)

C29-16 Motion was made by Mark Finkelstein, and seconded by Dennis Roberts, to adopt the decision as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

C74-17 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to adopt the decision as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

C85-17 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Dan Kaplan, to adopt the decision as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

Advisory Opinions

A23-17 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Michael Carucci, to advise as discussed. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

A10-18 Motion was made by Michael Carucci, and seconded by Dan Kaplan, to table this matter and research further. Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 1 – Abstention (Mark Finkelstein abstained)

A11-18 Motion was made by Michael Collins, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to advise as discussed. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

A13-18 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Michael Collins, to draft correspondence as discussed. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

A15-18 Motion was made by Jude Tanella, and seconded by Dennis Roberts, to advise as discussed. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

A14-18 Motion was made by Michael Carucci, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to decline to advise, and to communicate as discussed. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

A04-18 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to adopt this Advisory Opinion as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

A05-18 Motion was made by Michael Collins, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to adopt this Advisory Opinion as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

A06-18 Motion was made by Michael Collins, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to adopt this Advisory Opinion as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

A06-18 A second motion was made by Michael Collins, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to make this Advisory Opinion public. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

A07-18 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to adopt this Advisory Opinion as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

A07-18 A second motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to make this Advisory Opinion public. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

A08-18 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Dan Kaplan, to adopt this Advisory Opinion as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

A09-18 Motion was made by Michael Collins, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to adopt this Advisory Opinion as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

Other Business

C06-18 Motion was made by Mark Finkelstein, and seconded by Dennis Roberts, to place this matter in abeyance due to pending litigation. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

C13-18 Motion was made by Michael Collins, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to place this matter in abeyance due to pending litigation. Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 1 – Abstention (Mark Finkelstein abstained)

Update on the Status of Senate Bill No. 868. This matter was on the agenda for informational purposes only.

New Business

12:10 p.m. to 12:32 p.m. Acting Commissioner of Education, Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D. joined the Commission meeting, was introduced by Director Whalen, and welcomed by Chairperson Bender. After a brief discussion, Acting Commissioner Repollet departed.

Chairperson Bender requested that the date for the June meeting be changed. Commission members were asked to check their availability on June 25 and June 19, and report back to Director Whalen.

Minutes

Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to adopt the minutes of the February 27, 2018, meeting as written. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

12:38 p.m. Motion was made by Dan Kaplan, and seconded by Dennis Roberts, to adjourn. Vote: 8 – Yes 0 - No

Submitted by:

Karin L. Molnar

Approved by:

Kathryn A. Whalen, Director