

New Canaan, CT Ethics Board
2016 Annual Report

With the establishment of the Town of New Canaan's Ethics Board late in calendar year 2016, the panel had its first two meetings in November and December of the year.

All five members (Pat Calanca, Thomas "Tucker" Clauss, Tammie Gamer, Peggy Jay, and Steve Simon) were present for both meetings, and officers (Tucker Clauss, Chairman and Tammie Garner, Secretary) were elected in November. Also at that meeting was Town Attorney Ira Bloom who discussed the powers and responsibilities of the Board per the current Town Code of Ethics.

The Board received its first complaint in November, but deferred its formal review until appropriate intake processes and other procedural functions of the Board were established. Chairnan Clauss notified the complainant by mail of his issue's status.

At the December meeting Town Council members Bill Walbert, Kathleen Corbet, and Kevin Moynihan were present. Ms. Corbet and Mr. Moynihan shared the background for establishing a New Canaan Ethics Board, and Ms. Corbet provided the Board with examples of other towns' Ethics Boards and documentation of their best practices.

The Board discussed with Ms. Corbet and Mr. Moynihan its authority to investigate and adopt ordinances in administering the Town's Code of Ethics, and the processes which needed to be followed to have the rules and ordinances adopted.

The Board was notified in December that it will be given its own web page on the Town's website.

The Board discussed having a regular, monthly meeting (on the second Monday of each month at 7 PM in Town Hall) and the corresponding public notice requirements.

A second complaint was received, and the complainant was to be notified by email of the status of his issue.

Respectfully submitted,

The Town of New Canaan Ethics Board

cc: New Canaan Board of Selectmen
New Canaan Town Council
New Canaan Board of Education
New Canaan Town Clerk

Submitted: 02/1