



## **Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives**

Eileen Heaphy, Chair

Elise Coleman, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Tuesday, February 21, 2017

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Democratic Caucus Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Heaphy and Committee Member Reps. Mitchell, Nabel, Okun, Silver and Zelinsky. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Coleman, Day and Ryan. Also present were Clemon Williams, HR Director; Jim Lunney, Zoning Enforcement Officer, and John Ruotolo and Greg Lindquist of the DSSD.

Chair Heaphy called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. LR29.077	REVIEW; Status Of Compliance With Ethics Training And Other Related Requirements According To Ethics Ordinance, <a href="#">Chapter 19-18</a> , and Procedure For Compiling/Disclosure Of Ethics Advisory Opinions. 01/04/17 – Submitted by Reps. Heaphy and Ryan	<b>REPORT MADE</b>

Mr. Williams discussed the procedure for delivering ethics training to employees. Specifically,

- New hires get the ethics training with their orientation, including permanent and part-time employees, all unions and pay plan.
- There have been approximately 50 new employees in the last 6 months.
- There is a new employee handbook which includes a section on ethics training.
- The HR department sends out clips from current news where ethics violations among city employees from around the country have been a factor.
- Managers have also received the training
- For the Board of Reps, approximately 10 new representatives have received the training. There was discussion about whether the training should be online or live – the consensus of the committee was that it should be live.

Committee questions were:

- Where have ethics violations occurred? Mr. Williams responded that questions about receiving gifts are the most common
- Nepotism training? Has been given to new employees. Mr. Williams stated that he has resolved at least one issue of an employee reporting to a relative

- How is discipline enforced? Response was it is enforced across the board, union employees or pay plan.

Rep. Zelinsky suggested employees, specifically managers with authority to hire or purchase services, report gifts of any nature of \$15. or more. Committee discussed but did not take any action.

Chair Heaphy suggested a yearly reminder to managers about the policy. Also added that all elected boards should be sure to have the training. Mr. Williams will send a list of what elected/appointed board members have been trained and what the timeline is for catching up to having all employees receiving another session of ethics training. Chair Heaphy suggested once cycle every four years should be the goal.

2. LR29.078      REVIEW; Outdoor Dining Ordinance, [Chapter 214, Article V](#), Based On The Last Season to Consider Changes that may be Needed, Including Adequacy of Access for Persons with Disabilities.  
02/07/17 – Submitted by Rep. Heaphy
- Jim Lunney  
John Ruotolo  
Martin Levine

John Ruotolo , Jim Lunney and Greg Lindquist (who will be replacing John Ruotolo as he retires as VP Operations for DSSD) spoke to the ordinance’s enforcement over the past year. Mr. Ruotolo said it was on the whole successful, sets the right parameters, enables enforcement, the fees are reasonable and works for the businesses. One glitch is that there is no overall plot plan of the streets where the cafes exist so having individual drawings of each one is like having pieces of a puzzle without knowing what the overall boundaries are.

Jim Lunney said he felt the ordinance had come out a little late but again, on the whole it was workable. He noted:

- 31 cafes applied (including 4 or 5 private) out of a potential about 100, so the population of cafes is not complete.
- Generated \$23,458 in fees.
- City doesn’t have a survey of the street (presumably he was talking about Bedford Street) – a survey would enable better continuity among the design of each individual’s café.
- He still has containment issues – there are no permanent markers of where the boundaries should be, so even if the borders are correct at the beginning of the day, they frequently are pushed out by the end. Possible solutions are traffic tape, pin to sidewalk, lines on sidewalk.

Chair Heaphy felt that a revised ordinance should make the rules the same for cafes on public sidewalks or on private property, particularly enforcing the 48” perimeter item and making sure that ADA access is the same for both.

Chair Heaphy adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eileen Heaphy, Chair

***Due to technical difficulties, there is no video for this meeting.***