



Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives

Eileen Heaphy, Chair
Chair

Arthur Layton, Vice
Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, December 21, 2009
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th Floor Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. Present were Chair Heaphy, Vice Chair Layton and Committee Member Reps. Day, McGarry and Zelinsky. Absent/Excused were Committee Member Reps. Martin, Mitchell, Rauh and Uva.

As Secondary Committee

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. A28.005	<u>Director of Legal Affairs</u> Michael D. Larobina, Esq. 80 Fourth Street Stamford, CT 06905 Term Expires: 11/30/13	Held in Committee

The Committee first met in conjunction with the Appointments Committee (in the Democratic Caucus Room) at 7:00 p.m. to consider this item

The Committee then met in the Republican Caucus Room to take up the following items on its agenda:

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. LR28.001	APPROVAL; of changes to Rules of the Board re: 1) requiring interviews before the Appointments Committee for all replacements for elective offices; and 2) instituting a dress code; and 3) increase to postage allowance	Held in Committee

The committee discussed the current process for replacement of elective offices in the city, including the Board of Elections, Board of Finance and Board of Representatives. It was noted that positions on the first two boards are citywide, and that elected officials on the Board of Representatives represent individual districts. The question was raised as to whether that distinction would require

different treatment and whether only individuals being considered for the Board of Finance and the Board of Education should be required to appear before the Appointments Committee. It was noted that there is a built in safeguard to this process because, when the appointment process is used to fill a vacancy in an elected position, that position must be filled in the next biennial election. Rep. Layton presented the committee with a proposed dress code for Board of Representative members at Board meetings, which will be reviewed by committee members. Rep. Zelinsky suggested raising the postage allowance for representatives from \$750 for 4 years to \$1500 for 4 years, noting that the allowance has not increased in several years, although postage rates have increased.

2. [LR28.002](#) REVIEW; ordinance prohibiting the unsolicited distribution of telephone books or similar bulky printed materials. Held in Committee

The committee discussed the need to ensure that this proposed ordinance covers all residences, including rentals and condominiums, and whether individuals should be able to opt-in or opt-out of receiving telephone directories. The committee needs to determine whether there is a legal obligation on the part of telephone companies to distribute telephone directories before moving forward with this ordinance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Heaphy, Chair