



Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives

Eileen Heaphy, Chair

Arthur Layton, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Tuesday, January 19, 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, Mitchell, Rauh, Uva and Zelinsky. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Martin and McGarry.

Chair Heaphy called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

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 6-0-0

The committee discussed three proposed changes to the rules:

- Requiring nominees for replacements for all citywide elected positions be interviewed by the Appointments Committee prior to being considered by the full Board of Representatives.
 - The interview would be required for replacements to the Board of Finance and the Board of Education, but not for the Board of Representatives, because only the first two positions are citywide
 - This would make the Board's procedures consistent with the procedures followed for other citywide officials, such as appointments to the various commissions
 - The committee needs to draft specific language to be considered at the next meeting.
- A dress code for all monthly Board meetings and other meetings in the Legislative Chambers (proposed text attached)
 - In the past members have appeared at meetings in baseball caps or shorts
 - People should take the time to change prior to meetings
 - As an alternative to proposed dress guideline, Clerk or leadership can speak to members who are dressed inappropriately
 - Rule may be inconvenient for members who would be late for meetings if required to change
 - The word "major" should be removed from the first sentence
- An increase to the postage allowance from \$750 for four years to \$1500 for four years
 - There may not be money in the budget for this
 - The split of the amount into two year segments should be retained
 - The current guidelines should be reviewed for the next meeting

A motion to hold the item was made, seconded and approved by unanimous vote. (Reps. Heaphy, Layton, Day, Mitchell, Uva and Zelinsky in favor).

2. LR28.002	REVIEW; proposed ordinance prohibiting the unsolicited distribution of telephone books or similar bulky printed materials.	Held in Committee
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The committee next discussed a possible ordinance permitting residents to opt out of delivery of telephone books. Representative Day explained that the proposed language is derived from ordinances adopted in other cities. He noted that he has been contacted by a Yellow Book trade organization which has requested to be present at any public hearing on this ordinance. This item will be sent to the Corporation Counsel's office for review prior to the next meeting.

3. [LR28.004](#) RESOLUTION; approving a lease between the City of Stamford and Cox Communications, Inc. for lease of property on Magee Avenue.

**Held in
Committee**

This item was held at the request of Corporation Counsel.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Heaphy, Chair