

NY COALITION FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT Feb., 10, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order on Zoom; by Paul Wolf, President, at 6:34 pm.

Present on Zoom; Ed Schneider, BC, Call in User #2, Caitlin Curtin, R. Godlewski, Suzanne Kelly, Joe Kissel, Casey Jones, Patricia Irving, Maria Tisby, Carol, Ryan Howze (left early), John Fisher, Michelle A, Lawrence Vito, Janet Vito, Axel Ebermann, Sonia Dusza, Paul Wolf, Steve Lyle, Alberta Roman(Recorder)

Meeting Minutes; The Meeting Minutes from 1-13-2022 included in meeting packet sent out amended to include Caitlin Curtin as present. Motion to accept by Janet Vito, seconded by Maria Tisby and approved.

Treasurer's Report; The Treasurer's Report is included in meeting packet, reports \$3,633.12 through Jan 31, 2022 with 67 paid members from 22 counties. Motion to accept made by Michelle Allen-Gregory, seconded by Alberta Roman and approved.

2022 Calendar; Included in packet.

Report on County Board of Elections; This report went out in Jan. with good newspaper coverage around NYS. Next study/report will be on email use both private and governmental, by elected officials with attention to policy, archiving and preserving.

Open Meetings Law Committee Minutes; Report by Committee Chair Joe Kissel

- A) Recommend posting of meeting videos on line.
Joe Kissel made a motion to discontinue posting meeting videos on line. Michelle A. seconded. Motion accepted.
- B) First Annual Meeting to be held in April featuring Governor Candidates. A questionnaire for the candidates is being prepared.
- C) Ranking of Open Meetings Law reform priorities
 - 1) Creating an entity with enforcement powers.

- 2) Mandating public bodies to hear public comments at meetings.
- 3) Require meeting agendas and documents to be posted on line at least 72 hours before a meeting.
There was a 3 way tie for the 4th ranked priority
- 4) Require all meetings to be live streamed.
Amend the law to require more specificity for executive session motions.
Require meeting agendas and minutes to be posted online at least 72 hours before a meeting.

Maria Tisby; A) Sunshine week Event March 16th 1pm featuring speakers from the Connecticut FOIL Coalition and Rhode Island Attorney General Office.

B) Report regarding use of private email accounts by county legislators & email policies regarding use of emails for public business.

C) New Website- guest speaker at next committee meeting to answer questions.

Membership Renewal; Dues may be sent to Janet Vito Treasurer with address forthcoming.

New Business; Sonia Dusza recommend we watch LCTV of other municipalities' meetings. John Fisher spoke about set of criteria/check list in compliance reporting. Michelle A. spoke about diversity and transparency. Maria Tisby and Casey Jones spoke about County Exec. emergency powers and powers of enforcement for FOIL.

Meeting Adjourned; Motion to adjourn made by Janet Vito, seconded by Maria Tisby and approved at 7:38 pm.

Next Meeting on zoom Thursday March 10, 2022 at 6:30pm

Open Meeting Law Committee Feb. 17 at 4pm

Freedom of Information Law Committee Feb. 24 at 1pm