

# New York Coalition for Open Government

Thursday May 11, 2023, 6:30 PM

Via Zoom

Email [paulwolf2@gmail.com](mailto:paulwolf2@gmail.com) for the meeting link

Public Comments Are Welcome At Any Time During Our Meetings. Don't Be Shy To Ask A Question Or To Make A Point!

## AGENDA

- 1) Meeting Minutes from April 13, 2023 **PG 3-4**
  
- 2) Treasurer's Report – 72 total paid members (from 30 counties) **PG 5**  
\$5,660.27 as of 4/30/2023
  
- 3) 2023 Calendar **PG 6-8**
  
- 4) Albany Meeting Held May 5<sup>th</sup>
  
- 5) National Freedom of Information Coalition Dues (\$250) **PG 9**
  
- 6) Open Meetings Law Committee **PG 10-11**
  - A) Working with Cornell students on a report regarding live streaming of meetings, students will be helping to add visual graphics to the report
  - B) Petition for elected officials to sign committing to not discussing public business in secret caucus meetings has been distributed. Getting signatures going slow. We need to highlight elected officials who have been sent petition and not signed
  - C) Completing report to support amending the Open Meetings Law to mandate that public comments occur at meetings
  
- 7) Freedom of Information Law Committee **PG 12-13**
  - A) Report regarding enforcement reforms was released

- B) Committee reviewed legislation introduced by Senator Skoufis (S3438), the bill has many good points, Paul will contact Senator to make him aware of some negative concerns regarding the bill
- C) Committee reviewed bill introduced by Senator Gianaris/Solages (S00545/A00211-A), which would prohibit nondisclosure agreements as part of economic development projects receiving public assistance. Bill has passed Senate. Committee supports this bill and recommends that the Board support the bill.
- D) Committee reviewed bill which would allow for cameras in courtrooms introduced by Hoylman/Weprin, (S160/A712). NY is one of three jurisdictions in the country that does not allow cameras in courtrooms. The Committee supports this bill and recommends that the Board support the bill.

8) Public Relations/Education Committee Minutes

**PG 14-18**

- A) Committee continuing to tweak Litigation policy
- B) Annual Meeting, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm
- C) Committee recommends that the Coalition support Student Journalist Free Speech Act S2958/A4402 Senator Kavanagh, Assemblymember Lupardo
- D) Discussed trying out Circle community app

9) New Business

10) Next Meetings

Annual Meeting May 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm

Open Meetings Law Committee May 18<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 pm

Freedom of Information Law Committee April 25<sup>h</sup>, at 1:00 pm

Zoom social, May 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm

Public Relations June 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 pm

Coalition Board Meeting June 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm