

**Durham Ethics Commission
Meeting Minutes (Town Hall, 5th Floor)
Tuesday, August 26, 2025**

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman James Talbert-Slagle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 26. Present: James Talbert-Slagle; Kurt Peterson; Nicole Maletta, and Lynne Allen. Absent: Shawn Gibbons. Arriving late: Brian Dreyfus.
2. **Seating of Alternates** – Chairman Talbert-Slagle seated Lynne Allen (D) as an alternate.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – Kurt Peterson made a motion to approve the agenda as drafted. Nicole Maletta seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the last meeting of the Durham Ethics Commission on January 28, 2025 were reviewed. Kurt Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes. Nicole Maletta seconded that motion. The motion was approved, with one abstention. Lynne Allen, who was not yet a member of the Commission in January of 2025 and had not attended the January 2025 meeting, abstained. All other members voted in favor.
5. **Old Business** – No old business was addressed.
6. **New Business** –

Pursuant to Section 5.B. of the Durham Code of Ethics, Chairman Talbert-Slagle entertained a motion to enter into executive session. Kurt Peterson made a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to the relevant portions of the Durham Code of Ethics. Lynne Allen seconded the motion. The commission adopted the motion unanimously. The commission entered executive session at 7:05 p.m.

At 8:42 p.m., Kurt Peterson made a motion to exit executive session. Nicole Maletta seconded the motion, which the commission then approved unanimously.

Kurt Peterson made a motion that based on sufficient evidence being presented to the Commission, the Commission finds (1) that it has jurisdiction over a complaint that the Commission had received and (2) that the Commission will move forward with the investigatory process as outlined in the ordinances of the Town of Durham and the Durham Code of Ethics. That motion was seconded by Brian Dreyfus. The commission members voted unanimously to accept jurisdiction of the complaint and move forward with the investigatory process. Per the Code of Ethics, the commission will send certified letters to the respondent and complainant, alerting them of the commission's action in this matter. The respondent will then have 21 days to provide relevant evidence to the Commission related to the substance of the complaint.

7. Public Comment – There was no public comment.

8. Adjournment – Nicole Maletta made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Brian Dreyfus. The motion was adopted unanimously.