

Donna Conkling

From: Mayor
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 10:10 AM
To: Donna Conkling
Subject: FW: Nepotism is bad for government

From: Barry Kula
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 7:17 PM
To: Mayor
Subject: Re: Nepotism is bad for government

Mr Mayor:

Thank you for your quick reply. I will discuss with our neighbors and let you know of any further concerns. Have a great weekend!

Barry

> On Apr 13, 2018, at 6:09 PM, Mayor <mayor@scarsdale.com> wrote:

>

> Barry

> There are many family members who volunteer their service in Scarsdale. Whenever a Village Board member's family member applies for a Board or Council, that Board member recuses herself/himself from both any discussion of the candidate and the vote on the candidate. There is a misunderstanding of how carefully the Board proceeds in handling any application of Board members' family applicants. Unfortunately we are hearing/seeing many assumptions, even sometimes after the person has had explained how such an issue is handled.

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> Regarding personnel matters, for good reason, they are handled in Executive Session and it would be inappropriate to share publicly that which applicants expect to remain confidential.

> Dan

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> From: Barry Kula

> Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 10:14 AM

> To: Mayor

> Subject: Nepotism is bad for government

>

> Dear Mr Mayor:

>

> Thank you for your time and service to our community.

>

> I am writing to express my concern after learning from Mayra Kirkendall-Rodríguez about the nepotism in Scarsdale government and the lack of response to volunteer Ms. Jane Curley's email who has served and wishes to return to the Town Board of Assessment Review (BAR).

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> I understand that you have not responded to her email and did not answer the email of the sitting members of the BAR, who all described her significant contributions to the BAR. You did not respond to Bob Berg's comments or Mayra's about her during open comments at a recent meeting.

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- > I ask that you please respond to these people and run an open government that avoids any appearance of bias, petty politics and partisanship.
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- > Ms. Curley sounds like a smart volunteer who deserves a response and reason for not being included in our government as a volunteer given her desire to volunteer her time, services and skills.
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- > With regard to the other issue, appointing wives like Ms. Ross can have the appearance of nepotism in government even if she is qualified. And Mr. Finger's relative, I understand, also appointed to one of the boards, further gives the appearance that nepotism is the way we run our government in Scarsdale. Mr Mayor, nepotism is bad for government. Nepotism can lead to poor governance, misunderstandings and questionable fiscal responsibility.
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- > Mr. Mayor, please address Ms. Curley and her supporters with responses to their inquiries and emails. And please address the concern regarding the growing appearance of nepotism in our local government.
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- > Thank you in advance for a response and addressing these issues.
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- > Respectfully and with many thanks to you and the board for your service to our community.
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- > Barry Kula
- > Scarsdale, NY 10583