

COMMITTEE ON OPEN GOVERNMENT

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

RUTH N. COLON
ANTONIO DELGADO
PETER D. GRIMM
HADLEY HORRIGAN
WALTER T. MOSLEY
JEANETTE M. MOY
CHRIS POLICANO
FRANKLIN H. STONE
BLAKE G. WASHINGTON
STEPHEN B. WATERS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SHOSHANAH BEWLAY

MEETING MINUTES NYS COMMITTEE ON OPEN GOVERNMENT October 16, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

Members Present in Person:

Albany: Anais Vazquez (Secretary of State), Ian MacCallum (OGS), Amanda DeSantis (Lt. Gov.), Amy Ottaviano (Budget), Peter Grimm

New York City: Ruth Colon, Franklin Stone, Christopher Policano

Member Present by WebEx, pursuant to Section 103-a of the Open Meetings Law: Stephen Waters

Executive Director's Staff Present in Person:

Albany: Shoshanah Bewlay, Kristin O'Neill, Christen Smith, Elizabeth Baird, Candace Watson

Welcome: Introduction of members and Director's staff.

Quorum present

Approval of Minutes:

On a motion to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2023, meeting of the Committee, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Staff Activities:

The Executive Director updated Committee members on her staff's activities for the period November 2023 through September 2024, representing the period since our last meeting in December 2023. The Executive Director reported the following activities: 1500 calls handled; 1970 informal advisory opinions issued; 5000 appeals/determinations reviewed; 21 FOIL requests received and processed; 26 formal advisory opinions issued; and 33 training sessions (both virtual and in-person (26 of the 33)) provided to 1300 people.

Discussion of the 2024 Annual Report:

The Executive Director reviewed the draft 2024 Annual Report with Committee members. Based on comments and suggestions, the Executive Director will circulate for review as soon as possible a new draft that incorporates comments from the meeting and any additional comments, edits and material submitted after the meeting by Committee members.

Public Comment:

The Committee heard comments from Rachael Fauss of Reinvent Albany.

Adjourned at 12:53 pm