



Special Board of Directors Meeting

(via Zoom)

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judge James H. Cecile, Paula Freedman, Robert T. Tackman, Erich W. Shafer, Eric J.T. Caballero, Nicholas J. DeMartino, Steve Hodgins, Tysha Martin, Christopher Montgomery, Edward Perry, Patricia Usherwood Fitzpatrick, Jason J Wallace

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Shirley Copes, Alicia Colon,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Pastor Phyllis Lee Williams

STAFF PRESENT: Carolyn Brown, Rebecca Heberle (via zoom)

CALL TO ORDER

The January 21, 2025 Special Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 12:16 PM by Board President Judge James Cecile. It was noted for the record that there is a quorum.

BOARD MEMBER CONDUCT.

Board President Judge Cecile explained that this special meeting of the Board of Directors was called to address the conduct of Board Member Alicia Colon, who represents Head Start Policy Council.

Executive Director Carolyn Brown reported that it came to her attention on January 14, 2025 that PEACE, Inc. Board Member and Head Start Policy Council President Alicia Colon posted multiple videos of herself to social media which included inappropriate and threatening language; named and disparaged specific PEACE, Inc. staff and board members; and made outlandish allegations such as the snow in the Merrick Head Start parking lot was being used to poison people.

Judge Cecile then reported that due to an Order of Protection issued by Family Court, Alicia Colon was prohibited from entering Merrick Head Start.

PEACE, Inc. Head Start Director Rebecca Heberle reported that in accordance with Policy Council By-Laws, and in light of the fact that Alicia Colon violated the Adult Conduct Policy, she would be removed from her role as Policy Council President.

A full discussion of the matter occurred.

Paula Freedman moved that in light of the fact that Alicia Colon will no longer serve as Head Start Policy Council President, she be removed as a PEACE, Inc. Board Member, Nicholas DeMartino seconded. Judge James Cecile, Paula Freedman, Robert Tackman, Erich Shafer, Eric Caballero, Nicholas DeMartino, Steve Hodges, Tysha Martin, Christopher Montgomery, Patricia Usherwood Fitzpatrick, and Jason Wallace voted in favor. Edward Perry abstained.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting concluded at 12:40 PM.