

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Aaron Frank, Town Staff

SUBJECT: Proposed Revisions to the Ethics Guidelines for Advisory Boards and Commissions

DATE: January 9, 2018

RECOMMENDATION: At its December 12, 2017 meeting, the Historic District Commission discussed the proposed revisions to the ethics guidelines and expressed that it shares the value of a Commission that is, and is seen to be, operating under the highest ethical standards. The Commission expressed its support for the Council's interest in maintaining the trust of the public and providing due process to all parties.

The Commission met again on January 9, 2018 and expressed its support for sending a memo to the Council that, among other topics, addressed its reaction to the proposed revisions to the ethics guidelines. The memo states: "The HDC members have no problem with signing a document acknowledging our responsibilities. We question, however, whether this would be an appropriate amendment to the LUMO.

"We feel that adoption of the Model Ordinance – as a substitute for the scattered provisions in the existing LUMO – will provide needed clarity, compliance with state law and an advantageous federal program that will benefit the community, particularly applicants, and allow the Town of Chapel Hill to better realize the many benefits of historic preservation to this community."

SPECIAL REQUEST(S): No comment

BACKGROUND: No comment