



## OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM

Office of the Attorney General  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

Please note that all fields are required unless otherwise noted.

### Your Contact Information:

First Name: Betsy Last Name: Roberti

Address: 235 Weston Road

City: Wellesley State: MA Zip Code: 02482

Phone Number: +1 (617) 838-8961 Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

Email: betsy.roberti@gmail.com

Organization or Media Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Are you filing the complaint in your capacity as an individual, representative of an organization, or media?

(For statistical purposes only)

Individual       Organization       Media

### Public Body that is the subject of this complaint:

City/Town       County       Regional/District       State

Name of Public Body (including city/  
town, county or region, if applicable): Wellesley Advisory Committee

Specific person(s), if any, you allege  
committed the violation: Thomas Skelly

Date of alleged violation: June 14, 2019

## Description of alleged violation:

Describe the alleged violation that this complaint is about. If you believe the alleged violation was intentional, please say so and include the reasons supporting your belief.

Note: This text field has a maximum of 3000 characters.

Tom Skelly ( hereinafter "Skelly") as Chairman of the Advisory Committee sent an email dated June 14, 2019 (copy attached as Exhibit A hereto) to the entire Advisory Committee in violation of the Open Meeting Law. The email was an attempt by Skelly to justify to the entire committee why he did not send my name to the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee as the new Advisory representative to the School Building Committee. In the email he attempted to sway opinion on the committee as to why I would not be a good candidate for the position. Further, he implied in the email that he thought I was too biased to hold the position. He also tried to explain why he reneged on his written affirmation via email to me that he would make the appointment. This email constitutes deliberation under the open meeting and was a cowardly attempt by him to avoid discussing this matter in open session on June 26, 2019. The June 26, 2019 will be Skelly's final meeting on the board as his appointment expires on July 1, 2019. Finally, he sent a second email dated June 14, 2019 ( copy attached hereto as Exhibit "B") wherein he forwarded to the entire committee, emails from town residents complaining to the committee about the lack of transparency and possible back room deal that Skelly made when he reneged on making my appointment. Skelly stated at the end of the document that the residents had also sent the emails to the Massachusetts School Building Association (" MSBA"). He implied in his closing in the second email that somehow either the residents or I could be responsible for the loss of MSBA funding for the Hardy/Upham School project. some 18-20 million dollars. This tag line was an attempt to intimidate both me, the residents and ultimately the committee and is an example of the bullying tactics that he has used on me during this appointment process. This email was also sent to the entire committee in violation of the open meeting law.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Note: This text field has a maximum of 500 characters.

I want the Advisory Committee to hold an open meeting prior to July 1, 2019. I would expect that the committee will hear my grievance in open session against Mr. Skelly wherein he will apologize to me in open session for using the email system to talk about me and my character outside the open session. My reputation and standing in the community have been harmed. I have been defamed. I would also expect the committee to review my appointment.

## Review, sign, and submit your complaint

### I. Disclosure of Your Complaint.

**Public Record.** Under most circumstances, your complaint, and any documents submitted with your complaint, is considered a public record and will be available to any member of the public upon request.

**Publication to Website.** As part of the Open Data Initiative, the AGO will publish to its website certain information regarding your complaint, including your name and the name of the public body. The AGO will not publish your contact information.

### II. Consulting With a Private Attorney.

The AGO cannot give you legal advice and is not able to be your private attorney, but represents the public interest. If you have any questions concerning your individual legal rights or responsibilities you should contact a private attorney.

### III. Submit Your Complaint to the Public Body.

The complaint must be filed first with the public body. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Open Government by calling (617) 963-2540 or by email to [openmeeting@state.ma.us](mailto:openmeeting@state.ma.us).

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the provisions above and certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Betsy S. Robert*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6/18/19

From: Tom Skelly <tskelly@warrington.org>

Sent: Friday, June 14, 2019 2:24 PM

To: Andrea Ward; \_JEFFREY L. LEVITAN; \_Paul Merry; Lina Musayev; Mary Gard; \_Jane Andrews; Todd Cook; Betsy Roberti; Rosemary Donahue; David Murphy; Bill Maynard; Keene, Alissa; Julie Bryan; Bob Furlong; Mary Scanlon

Subject: Leadership for next year and my SBC recommendation

The third-year members of advisory met and voted on the leadership for next year's advisory committee. Unfortunately Dave Murphy could not join us so four of the five, three year members of the advisory committee, participated in these votes.

Todd Cook was selected as the Chair, Betsy Roberti and Bill Maynard were selected as vice chairs. And Julie Bryant has stepped up to be the secretary. Congrats to all! It is a powerful team leading a great committee with hard working members. All the best!!

I also appointed Mary Gard as liaison to the SBC from Advisory. If you recall I asked for volunteers for that position in April. Mary was the only one who stepped forward. She started working with Jane Andrews on that liaison role shortly after.

After Betsy was not named chair she asked if she could fill the role of SBC liaison. I initially agreed to move her name along in nomination after talking with Mary.

Ultimately I came to conclude after hearing from parents within the HHU precincts, after I reached out to BOS members and SC members, past Advisory members and reviewing statements of both Mary and Betsy on the Save our Schools website that Mary would be best for the role. I hated to disappoint Betsy however I had to put the interests of the town and advisory before my personal feelings.

The next series of emails I will be forwarding to you have come to the Advisory email inbox over the past several days. As Advisory members you should be aware of what is coming to the email box. These emails are full of inaccurate information that I will address in the proper forum at the proper time.

My goal during this entire process was to pick a great Advisory member, one that had proved her ability to understand, write up and communicate to Advisory complex issues. I believe we on Advisory are results and fact driven.

Have a great weekend and all the best!

Tom Skelly  
Advisory Chair (but not for long)

EXHIBIT A

FROM: Tom Skelly <tskelly@wenesitey.ma.gov>

Sent: Friday, June 14, 2019 4:42 PM

To: Andrea Ward; \_JEFFREY L. LEVITAN; \_Paul Merry; Lina Musayev; Mary Gard; \_Jane Andrews; Todd Cook; Betsy Roberti; Rosemary Donahue; David Murphy; Bill Maynard; Keene, Alissa; Julie Bryan; Bob Furlong; Mary Scanlon

Subject: Advisory Emails

As promised emails recently received by the Advisory email inbox and confirmation of receipt of these emails by the MSBA. The entity that may, or may not, grant the town \$18 to \$20 million in funds for the Hardy/Upham project.

Enjoy the weekend!

Tom



Mail Attachment



Mail Attachment



Mail Attachment

EXHIBIT B