



## ***Special Communications Committee – Board of Representatives***

Bob Lion, Chair      Nina Sherwood, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Thursday, August 23, 2018  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Democratic Caucus Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Government Center, 888  
Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The Communications Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Lion, Vice Chair Sherwood and Committee Member Reps. Michelson, Matherne, Morson, Nabel and Zelinsky. Absent or excused was Rep. Moore.

Chair Lion called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. C30.004	REVIEW; Discuss a communications allowance to assist Board of Representatives members to communicate issue-oriented matters with constituents, and propose draft rules governing the appropriate use of said allowance. 03/06/18 – Submitted by Reps. de la Cruz, Lion, Sherwood, Michelson, Matherne, Zelinsky 03/15/18 –Held in Committee 05/02/18 –Held in Committee 05/22/18 – Held in Committee 06/27/18 – Held in Committee	<b>Report Made and Item Held 7-0-0</b>

The Committee stated the following if the allowance is to be considered: (Pros and Cons)

- Consider possible financial burden on the City
- Specific language on how the money should be spent
- If tax payers money should go towards neutral city-wide communications
- Make sure all citizens are reached not just people registered to vote
- There is a way to have the post office deliver to every address
- Specific in saying it is a line item in the Board of Reps Budget
- If dollar amount will work for every district; district size is different
- Chair Lion will get cost from the Post Office for possible post card mailings
- Canvas districts for email addresses
- Frequency of mailing/annual/restrictions
- Don't do mailings in election year
- Legal Opinion on possible ordinance of requiring representatives to reach out to constituents

- Each Committee member will put together language of Rules/Amounts/Restrictions

Chair Lion adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Lion, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).