

City of Langley
Ethics Training and Advisory Board
Minutes Jan. 25, 2016

Members Present: B. Frause, M. Guzman, S. Betcher, Fred Herzon (via Skype) M. Seligson

1. The meeting was called to order at 4 pm.
2. The minutes of the meeting of 12/7/15 were approved.
3. Tonight's meeting was a three-hour workshop dealing with the Ethical Code, discussion of the document and revision of proposed principles of conduct.
4. Board members original documents and additions were incorporated into a single document. Details of each proposed Principle of Conduct provision were discussed and final, proposed language, was agreed to by all Board members.
5. Two Principles of Conduct in the original Code (1.24.030 E. Future Employment and 1.24.030 G. Nepotism) were proposed for deletion and referral to the City's Employment and Hiring Policies.
6. There was a question regarding the Nepotism provision and it was determined that a conversation with the City Attorney was needed to determine whether it includes the Mayor and Council members. City Attorney will be consulted about this and other issues.
7. The Board felt we needed to define the term Public Domain. New language will be proposed.
8. Questions and issues which need to be resolved included:
 - What does it mean to lodge the ethics code inside the municipal code?
 - Is the ethics code meant to be a legal or an aspirational code?
 - Are elected officials and board members guided by the employment manual—hence, the impulse to reach for the code;
 - The mayor is not covered by employment policies. Given that, do we need to write nepotism section for elected officials? Or are all occasions covered by city hiring policy and/or Washington State code of ethics for elected officials?
 - Administrative provisions, including especially the concern for confidentiality in the process of raising a concern related to the ethics code.
 - Check each area of the principles of conduct to see if vendors need to be included.
11. Homework: review 1.24.060 Administrative Provisions in document dated 1/25/16.
- 12 Next meeting will be held on Feb. 8, 2016 from 4 till 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilee Seligson

