

# City of Langley, Washington

## Ethics Training and Advisory Board

**Chairman**  
Bob Frause

**Members**  
Sharon Betcher  
Monica Guzman  
Fred Herzon  
Marilee Seligson

### Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 7, 2015  
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

---

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

1. Approval of minutes of last meeting-Reviewed and approved
2. B. Frause discussed his communication with the city attorney regarding the process that the Board used to deal with the formal complaint at our last meeting. Several issues emerged. According to the city attorney, state and city law requires that the complaint be made public upon filing of the complaint. Additionally, no minutes were to be taken at the executive meeting and no final decisions were to be made while still in the executive session. The Board's decision was to be made and announced at the public portion of the meeting, which would normally take place after the conclusion of the executive session. That did not happen.
3. Extensive discussion ensued but the board recognized that the law must be followed and will comply with the attorney's direction. There was agreement that the Board should continue to explore avenues that will allow us to educate the public and city officials and employees on ethical issues.
4. To correct this oversight, the Board concluded unanimously, in a public meeting held December 7<sup>th</sup>; that, as the Code of Ethical Conduct is currently written, there was no ethical violation by Mayor McCarthy or any other member of the City. The complaint, filed by Langley business owner, Maureen Cooke was dismissed and a letter to Ms. Cooke was read into the public record and also sent directly to her.

5. The next meeting of the Ethics Board will be 1/25/2016 from 4:00 to 7:00pm. Work will focus on the completion of a draft revision of the current Code of Ethical Conduct, Section 1.24 of the Langley Municipal Code.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.