



Board of Ethics Minutes

Special Meeting

<http://www.cityoftacoma.org>

Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 248, 747 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

January 28, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: 6 – Andrew Austin, Stan Betts, Julie Bjornsson, Susan Jensen, Alternate Joseph Keller and Chair Hymans

Board Members Absent: 0

REVIEW A COMPLAINT SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD AND, IF NECESSARY, TO DESIGNATE AN INDIVIDUAL TO CONDUCT AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION OF THE COMPLAINT

Chair Hymans asked all present to introduce themselves; he then stated that tonight's meeting is not a hearing, but rather the Board will discuss the allegations that have been raised against Council Member Manthou.

After confirming that all Board members had read the complaint, Chair Hyman opened the floor for discussion.

After a brief discussion regarding the complaint received, Chair Hyman directed that the Board review each item under Tacoma Municipal Code, Chapter 1.46, Code of Ethics, Section 1.46.030, Prohibited Conduct, to determine if the complaint rises to the level of a possible ethics violation.

Ms. Jensen inquired about "hearsay" and how the Board should consider those statements. City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli advised the Board members to review the complaint, and to ask themselves "if the allegations were true, would it be considered prohibited conduct?" under TMC Section 1.46.030.

The Board commenced review of the complaint in conjunction with Section 1.46.030. After a brief discussion, the Board set-aside 1.46.030 (a), General Prohibition until other

items can be reviewed. The Board concluded that no possible violation of Sections 1.46.030 (b) through 1.46.030 (g), or Sections 1.46.030 (l) through 1.46.030 (l), have occurred. Chair Hyman stated that Sections 1.46.0309(a) and (h) would now be discussed for potential violations.

After much discussion, the Board concluded that there was no potential violation of Section 1.46.030(a), General Prohibition. After further discussion, the Board concluded that there was also no violation of Section 1.46.030(h).


Chair Hyman, determining no further discussion necessary, asked for a motion regarding the allegations.

Mr. Betts moved that the Board of Ethics proceed to assign these allegations to an investigator. Seconded by Chair Hyman. After a brief discussion, a voice vote on the motion was taken and the motion failed.

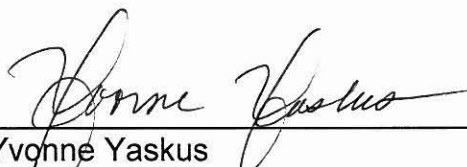
Mr. Austin moved that the Board dismiss the complaint as not constituting conduct prohibited by the Code of Ethics. Seconded by Ms. Jensen. Voice vote was taken and carried; the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.



Julie Bjornsson, Vice-Chair



Yvonne Yaskus
Records Management Supervisor/Public Records Officer
City Clerk's Office