

Raymond Ethics Committee
September 30, 2003

- I. Co-Chair Sandy Ellis opened the meeting at 6:30pm at the Raymond Town Hall. Also present were:
Gretchen Gott
Emery Landis
Marilyn Semple
Pat Landry was excused.
There were no members of the public present and the meeting was not televised.
- II. A. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The proof of posting was reviewed.
- B. The minutes were reviewed. Marilyn Semple moved to accept the minutes as written, Emery Landis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous in the affirmative.
- C. Correspondence: A letter from NH Municipal Association was read. They are available for training and they provided a booklet on Ethics in Municipal Government.
- III. Old Business:
There was discussion on the Ethics training sessions for public servants. The committee decided on the following schedule, based on replies from the various boards/committees:
1. October 1st - Conservation Commission (7:30) - Marilyn and Gretchen
 2. October 8th - Zoning Board of Adjustment (7:30) - Marilyn and Emery
 3. October 9th - Planning Board (7:30) - Pat and Sandy
 4. October 20th - Board of Selectmen (? Time) - Sandy, Emery, Gretchen

There was a general discussion regarding the content of and process for the training sessions. Pages 7-12 of the code booklet contain the provisions of the code and should be discussed with those at the sessions. In addition, the forms should be reviewed, along with any other points that those present have questions about. There should be an attendance sheet passed and that will be retained by the committee. The members present discussed the section that discussed public servants presenting before boards on which they sit and how confusing that can be to the public. Also discussed was the fact that the public input and deliberation sections of public hearings need to be clearly defined during the meeting. This so those who recuse themselves are clear as to when they must leave the room.

There was discussion that the committee members should stress that there is a process to follow when making a complaint and that is to go to the committee/board first and only if there is not satisfaction, to the Ethics Committee.

The members also, again, discussed the fact that this code meant to protect public servants.

There was discussion regarding the best method to reach the town employees. It was felt that we do need to meet with the department heads and the employees. This discussion will be continued to the Oct. 14th committee meeting.

V. New Business:

The committee reviewed dates for the next meetings. The next meeting will be October 14, 2003, at 6:30pm, at the Town Hall.

Emery Landis made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Marilyn Semple. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Gott