

FREDERICK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

340A Montevue Lane

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MINUTES of the December 12, 2018 Monthly Meeting of The Frederick County Board of Elections

The meeting was called to order at 12:37 PM, in Room 119 of the Frederick County Board of Elections Office, located at 340A Montevue Lane, by the Board President, Mrs. Mary Lou Green.

PRESENT:

Mary Lou Green, President
Mark P. Jeffers, Jr., Vice President
Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary
Carlotta C. Joyner, Board Member
William L. Woodcock, Board Member
Daniel B. Loftus, Board Attorney

Stuart Harvey, Election Director
Christine Winer, Election Supervisor
Carl Dayley, Election Clerk Lead Advanced
Ragen Cherney, County Council Chief of Staff

GUESTS:

Deborah Carter, Frederick County Democrats

BOARD OF CANVASSERS: Mary Lou Green, Chairman of the Board of Canvassers called the meeting to order at 12:37 PM to discuss 22 absentee ballots, 2 FWAB ballots, and one undeliverable ballot received after the deadline. Mr. Dayley presented these ballots to the Board for their review.

Mr. Woodcock made a motion to reject the ballots. Mr. Jeffers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE BOARD OF CANVASSERS:

At 12:46 PM, Mr. Woodcock made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Canvassers. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mrs. Green called the regular meeting to order at 12:46 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR September 5, 2018 and October 19, 2018 MEETING:

Mr. Woodcock made a motion to accept the minutes. Mrs. Green seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS:

Council Liaison was not present at the meeting. Council Chief of Staff, Ragen Cherney notified the Board that the Council will vote to choose the next Council Liaison on December 18, 2018.

ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Harvey reports post-election work including processing of voter registration and information changes is ongoing.

OLD BUSINESS

FY19 BUDGET:

Mr. Harvey provided an overview of the current status of budget accounts. He explained the overages in the General Election accounts, due to overtime and staff mileage during Early Voting.

GENERAL ELECTION REVIEW:

Mr. Harvey commented that staff did an excellent job preparing and executing tasks for the General Election. He reported that the overall turnout was 63%. Ms. Winer will provide the Board with a summary of no-show judges at the January 2019 meeting.

Mr. Jeffers stated that several judges commented that there was a lack of communication regarding scheduling to work on Election Day. Ms. Joyner reported chief judges complained that they didn't receive their judge lists in a timely fashion. Mr. Harvey said in future, judge lists will be sent via email. He also discussed changes to chief judge qualifications, including requiring email addresses.

The Board discussed possibly hiring judges for half-day shifts, as well as additional standby judges. The Board also discussed if the electronic device prohibition reduces willingness to serve.

The Board discussed no-show judges, and ways to reduce the number of judges who train, and then fail to work. Mr. Hill and Mr. Loftus both commented that staff and judges did an exemplary job managing voter expectations during long lines.

Ms. Winer provided the Board with an update on the status of paying Election Judges for the General Election. She is working with County Finance, Payroll, and Human Resources to complete the payment process. The process in our office is nearly complete, and is awaiting processing by those departments.

Ms. Joyner mentioned the ongoing issues with signage, specifically the different information contained on the provisional ballot application versus that which is shown on the signs posted in the polling place. Ms. Joyner will send concerns regarding the signs to Erin Perrone at the State Board.

Ms. Joyner also expressed concern over ongoing issues with signage not being posted within the polling places. She suggested adding a list of signs to the Chief Judge's set-up checklists. Feedback from judges included the need for more voting booths, and scanning units in the polling places.

Mr. Hill brought up concerns about judges being at Crestwood Middle School being unable to locate provisional ballots for several hours. Ballots were eventually located in one of the ballot bins.

Mr. Jeffers expressed concern that Prospect United Methodist Church is too small to work as a polling place. Voters were waiting in the rain outside after receiving their ballot. Mr. Harvey said it may be necessary to find a new location in the precinct, if possible.