



Frederick County Board of Elections

340A Montevue Lane, Frederick, Maryland 21702
FrederickCountyMD.gov/elections

301-600-VOTE (8683)
ElectionBoard@FrederickCountyMD.gov



MINUTES of the June 18, 2019 Special Meeting of the Frederick County Board of Elections

PRESENT

Mary Lou Green, President

Shirley McDonald, Vice President

Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary

Mary Costello, Board Member

William L. Woodcock, Board Member

Daniel B. Loftus, Board Attorney

Stuart Harvey, Election Director

Noreen L. Schultz, Election Deputy Director

Marc R. Welch, Election Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Green called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

GUESTS

Deborah Carter, Democratic Central Committee Chair, and Craig Giangrande, Republican Central Committee Chair attended the meeting.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED COUNTY OFFICE SPACE CHANGES

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Board's next steps with regard to the County plan to reallocate some of the office space currently assigned to the Election Board to the County's Liquor Board.

Mr. Harvey discussed the Thursday, June 13 meeting with the County Executive, County Administrative Officer, and Director of Public Works. He updated the Board on a visit from Kevin Vida of Public Works on June 14 to measure the space impending the remodeling of the office space, including potentially reconfiguring the existing space.

Mr. Harvey noted that losing the office space as currently configured will significantly hamper the ability to efficiently conduct the election.

Mrs. Green mentioned that the final two weeks in April is the timeframe where all liquor licenses must be renewed. This busy period for the liquor board will coincide with the Election Judge training, Early Voting, Election Day, and the first Absentee Canvass for the 2020 Primary Election. This will impact parking for the increased staff, canvass teams, and the Board present for the Canvass.

Mr. Woodcock asked if we've pursued matters with SBE and legislative contacts. Mr. Woodcock discussed his observations from the meeting with the County Executive. Mr. Loftus said that SBE has been contacted and is monitoring the situation.

Mr. Loftus discussed his observations from Thursday's meeting.

Mrs. Schultz discussed meeting with DPW staff prior to the move from the Bourne Building to 340A Montevue Lane. At no point during preliminary meetings did the space allocation come up, nor did they indicate that any portion of 340A Montevue Lane wasn't allocated to the Elections office.

Mr. Hill discussed his observations from Thursday's meeting. He feels that Election Security is the potentially more effective argument, versus the space concerns.

(Mr. Giangrande exited @ 10:00am)

Mr. Loftus provided an overview of options for the Board's consideration:

- 1) The Board can opt to go to court to seek a temporary restraining order/injunction.
- 2) The Board could opt to issue a press release.
- 3) The Board could opt to do nothing.

The Board discussed the options, and determined that doing nothing was not appropriate. The Board discussed drafting a press release. Mr. Hill proposed possibly meeting with the Liquor Board to express the Election Board's concerns regarding security.

Mr. Woodcock made a motion to issue a press release, then set up a meeting with Liquor Board. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

RECESS

At approximately 10:35 AM, the County Executive called Mr. Harvey regarding this issue.

Mrs. McDonald made a motion to recess briefly to allow time for Mr. Harvey to speak with the County Executive. Mrs. Costello seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened the meeting at 10:50 AM so Mr. Harvey could update the Board on his conversation with the County Executive. Based on the conversation, the Board modified its plan to issue a press release, and then set up a meeting with the Liquor Board. Instead the Board will draft the release, but hold it, pending the scheduled July 3, 2019 Election Board Meeting. The Board will invite the Liquor Board to the upcoming meeting to continue discussion of this issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Woodcock made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Costello seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

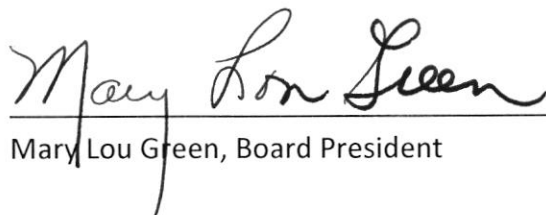
Meeting adjourned at 11:08 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Marc R. Welch
Election Administrative Assistant

Approved by:


Mary Lou Green, Board President

Date