



Frederick County Board of Elections

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

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



MINUTES of the December 2, 2020 Meeting of The Frederick County Board of Elections

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM, via video and teleconference by the Board President, Mrs. Mary Lou Green.

PRESENT:

Mary Lou Green, President	Stuart Harvey, Election Director
Shirley McDonald, Vice President	Noreen L. Schultz, Election Deputy Director
Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary	Clifton Mowell, Election IT Specialist
Mary Costello, Board Member	Christine Winer, Election Supervisor
William Woodcock, Board Member	Marc R. Welch, Election Program Assistant
Daniel B. Loftus, Board Counsel	MC Keegan-Ayer, County Council President

GUESTS:

Jim Filson, League of Women Voters
Deborah Carter, Chair, Frederick County Democratic Central Committee

BOARD OF CANVASSERS:

Ms. Winer reports 12 ballots arrived too late for the November 2020 General Election, and need to be rejected. Mrs. Costello made a motion to reject the ballots. Mr. Woodcock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Woodcock made a motion to accept the September 9, 2020 meeting minutes. Mrs. McDonald seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Mrs. McDonald made a motion to accept the October 9, 2020 meeting minutes. Mr. Woodcock seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL:

Mrs. Keegan-Ayer updated the Board on current COVID-19 restrictions. These are similar to what is in effect at the State level. The County has imposed additional restrictions on fitness centers and gyms in order to better mitigate risk. Frederick Health Hospital reports rapidly increasing cases, and capacity could be exceeded. The Council is trying to keep small businesses open, and is being careful to find a balance. Council has reelected Mrs. Keegan-Ayer and Michael Blue as officers.

Mrs. Keegan-Ayer also expressed the Council's appreciation for the Board and staff's work to carry out the election. She reports that public feedback on the election has been good.

The Board discussed the Council Liaison's report.

ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Harvey provided a written report and provided highlights. He reports the Council approved the recent grant from the Center for Technology and Civic Life (CTCL). Mrs. Keegan-Ayer also mentioned that MACo will be more active in pursuing better election funding for the local boards at the state level.

The Board discussed the report.

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OLD BUSINESS:

A. FY21 BUDGET UPDATE

Mr. Harvey updated the Board on the FY21 budget. Overages and unbudgeted expenses will be covered by the CTCL grant.

The Board discussed the budget report.

A. NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION REVIEW

Mr. Harvey provided an overview of the overall turnout, which is unchanged in preliminary numbers. Biggest change in this year vs. 2016 is that 43% of voters used mail-in ballots in 2020. 6543 voters used mail-in ballots in 2016. 36% used early voting vs. 18% in 2016. State certification will happen on Friday, and once final turnout statistics are available Mr. Harvey will provide to the Board and also the media.