



City of Annapolis

Office of the City Clerk
160 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-2535

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**VIRTUAL MEETING
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS
Minutes**

The Regular Virtual Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Elections of the City of Annapolis was held on January 21, 2021. Chair Leahy called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present: Chair Leahy, Member Cuffie, Member Myers
Staff Present: City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge, Election Assistant Eckert, Assistant City Attorney Leonard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Myers moved to adopt the December 17, 2020 meeting minutes. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

DISCUSSION:

Election Update:

Status of Memorandum of Understanding between City of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County

Assistant City Attorney Leonard reported that the County expects to email comments to the Board next week. A meeting date between the County and the City has not been set.

City Elections Office Update

City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge, Assistant City Attorney Leonard and Election Assistant Eckert briefed the Board on the status of the City Law/City Clerk's office build-out and inquiries about candidacy.

Legislation Update:

Independent Expenditures

Assistant City Attorney Leonard provided an updated draft of the ordinance for the Board's review. It includes an additional definition relating to public communication and social media. She is reviewing State regulations that address mass texting limits and will include a proposed provision scaled to the City population size.

Final Campaign Report Filings

Assistant City Attorney Leonard provided information regarding the State's deadline for losing candidates to close out their campaign fund account and file a final report. The Board discussed amending City Code to include a similar provision, with a goal to finalize recommended legislation at the Board's February meeting.



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Chair Leahy will send out a summarization of the foregoing discussion, to the Board, to include the need for additional report filings, forms and late filing fees.

Charter Revision Commission

Chair Leahy reported that her name is on the list of potential members of the Charter Revision Commission. Several proposed changes to the Charter that would affect City elections: partisan vs. non-partisan elections, rotation of elections to coincide with either state or national elections, moving the date for primary elections and the requirement for the number of polling locations.

Campaign Fund Report Review Update on Audited Reports:

Member Myers reported that all but one outstanding issue has been resolved with amended report filings. City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge followed up with Ald. Arnett on confirmation of reimbursement to his fund, which will be reflected in his next report filing. Chair Leahy contacted Ald. Gay regarding his agreement with respect to the outstanding amended report and late filing fee. The Board acknowledged that this issue must be resolved before accepting a certificate of candidacy from Ald. Gay for the City's 2021 Primary Election. City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge confirmed that Ald. Gay is aware of this requirement. The Board will request Ald. Gay's attendance at the Board's February meeting.

Review Election Forms:

Campaign Fund Report
Loan Consent Form
Campaign Fund Report Amendment Description
2021 Candidate Handbook & Receipt Acknowledgement

Election Assistant Eckert provided an overview and the Board discussed most recent changes and additions to the forms. Election Assistant Eckert will make changes recommended by the Board and submit to City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge for review and approval before distribution to candidates and posting to the City's Elections webpage.

ADJOURNMENT:

Member Myers moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:39 p.m. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Susan Eckert
Election Administration Assistant