



City of Annapolis

Office of the City Clerk
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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 March 18, 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, Assistant City Attorney Leonard, Election Assistant Eckert

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Myers moved to adopt the February 25, 2021 meeting minutes. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

DISCUSSION:

Certificates of Candidacy:

There were no Certificates of Candidacy submitted for approval at this meeting.

Election Update:

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

Assistant City Attorney Leonard and City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge reported that the Memorandum of Understanding is nearly complete and should be ready for signatures very soon. The County is moving forward on documents and quality control forms, and reviewing the City's website for the creation of a calendar.

City Elections Office Update

Election Assistant Eckert and City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge provided an update on the office build-out and of general candidacy inquiries received by the Elections Office.

City Council Work Session – March 11, 2021

Chair Leahy reported on her presentation at the City Council's work session. City Council members appear to be in favor of vote-by-mail using two to eight drop boxes, and changing the number of polling places from sixteen to eight, provided the latter is applied equally across all Wards.

Polling Locations for 2021 Annapolis Elections

Election Assistant Eckert reported on an informal survey of possible polling and drop box locations in each Ward. The goal is to maintain consistency in locations for current and future elections when possible. City of Annapolis MIT Manager Paquin recommends placing drop boxes where City cameras are currently located, thereby reducing installation and monitoring costs. City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge will follow up with the Anne



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Arundel County Board of Elections regarding drop box security monitoring frequency in place during the 2020 Presidential Election; and if drop boxes can be located inside a building for security purposes.

Ballot Questions:

Member Myers summarized his research, assisted by Assistant City Attorney Leonard, of State of Maryland election laws that might address gaps in City code. Clarification is needed on the number of petition signatures required, the date used to define the denominator, and submission timing deadlines for various types of questions. COVID-19 also raises some questions regarding petition signature verification. City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge reported that there has not been a ballot question in a City election since her tenure began in 2004.

Candidate Question – Follow up:

No new information to report.

Legislation Update:

Independent Expenditures

No new information to report.

Charter Revision Commission - Update

Chair Leahy reported that the Commission has had a first meeting and has elected officers. Two members are interested in city election code. Chair Leahy invited them to attend the monthly Board of Supervisors of Elections meetings.

Election-related Bills before the 2021 Regular Session of the Maryland General Assembly:

Member Cuffie reported on the status of election-related bills HB0206, HB0398, HB0355 and SB0010 currently before the General Assembly.

Registered Voters List:

Member Myers requested a current listing of registered voters in the City. Chair Leahy will forward the information she received from City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge earlier this month.

ADJOURNMENT:

Member Cuffie moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:44 p.m. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Susan Eckert
Election Administration Assistant