



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

[Elections@annapolis.gov](mailto:Elections@annapolis.gov) • 410-263-7929 • Fax 410-280-1853 • TDD use MD Relay or 711 • [www.annapolis.gov](http://www.annapolis.gov)

**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 April 15, 2021. Chair Leahy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Chair Leahy, Member Cuffie, Member Myers  
Staff Present: City Clerk Watkins-Eldridge, Assistant City Attorney Leonard, Election Assistant Eckert  
Others Present: Toni Strong Pratt, Scott Gibson, Alderman Arnett, Michele Jackson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Cuffie moved to adopt the March 18, 2021 meeting minutes. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Chair Leahy noted one submission of public comment on the topic of Ballot Questions, received via the Board of Supervisors of Elections – Comments Web Form.

**WRITTEN Comments Received:**

- 1. Charles Parker, 141 West St, Unit 202, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Public Testimony Web Form – To view the actual comments, please visit [www.annapolis.gov/publictestimony](http://www.annapolis.gov/publictestimony)**

**ADD ITEM TO AGENDA**

Member Myers moved to add consideration of Alderman Arnett’s Certificate of Candidacy to the Agenda. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Certificates of Candidacy:**

**Ward 4 Alderwoman, Toni Strong Pratt**

Member Cuffie moved to accept the Certificate of Candidacy for Ms. Strong Pratt. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

**Ward 2 Alderman, Scott Gibson**

Member Cuffie moved to accept the Certificate of Candidacy for Mr. Gibson. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

**Ward 8 Alderman, Ross H. Arnett, III**

Member Myers moved to accept the Certificate of Candidacy for Ald. Arnett. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.



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### **Election Update:**

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

Assistant City Attorney Leonard reported that there are several procedural/operational issues to be addressed prior to finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding. A meeting with Anne Arundel County Board of Elections staff is scheduled for Monday, April 19, 2021 to resolve these items.

### **Polling Locations and Drop Box Locations**

Based on information the Board has received from the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections, Chair Leahy proposed discussion in three areas:

Total number of polling locations with the goal of equal number of polling locations across Wards, and utilizing past locations whenever possible. Each location is subject to the County's accessibility and adequacy of space analysis.

Polling locations: Numbers and locations reviewed and discussed. Equal number of polling locations in each ward and utilize past locations whenever possible to promote consistency. Each location is subject to the Anne Arundel County State Board of Elections accessibility and adequacy of space analysis. Anne Arundel County State Board of Elections was asked to assess all locations for ability to handle consolidated precinct voting, particularly Eastport library.

Member Myers moved for the 2021 Annapolis elections to select eight (8) locations, one per ward, as in-person voting locations and that the Board provide recommendations to the County to assist in the County's analysis. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Vote-by-mail options: Various options discussed. Additional information from Anne Arundel County State Board of Elections needed. Final decision to be made at next meeting. Regardless of option adopted, promotion of information and outreach will be a priority.

Drop boxes: Various options for the number and locations discussed. Further discussion at next meeting.

### **Curing of Absentee Ballots**

Assistant City Attorney Leonard clarified the State's process for ballot curing. She does not find it to be in conflict with, or in violation of, the City code for canvassing absentee ballots.

### **Ballot Questions:**

Discussion on this topic postponed to next month's meeting.

### **Campaign Question:**

Chair Leahy and Assistant City Attorney Leonard reported on Maryland State Board of Elections guidance for a recent inquiry from a campaign regarding the inclusion of an authority line on promotional material; and how to report as an in-kind contribution on the Campaign Fund Report. The campaign has been provided this information.



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### **Legislation Update:**

#### **Independent Expenditures**

Assistant City Attorney Leonard reported on the status of the draft of proposed legislation for the filing of Independent Expenditure Reports that she is working on with the Maryland State Board of Elections.

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

Member Cuffie reported on bills she was tracking for the Board. SB 596/HB 206 to expand early voting center hours passed both houses during the legislative session. HB 222 to provide individuals released from a correctional facility with voter registration and voter rights information passed in the House.

#### **Voting Accessibility:**

Chair Leahy asked the Board to review Annapolis City Transit bus routes in relation to potential drop box locations. Elections Assistant Eckert will inquire with the Annapolis Department of Transportation on mapping this information.

#### **City Elections Office Update**

No information to report.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Member Cuffie moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:31 p.m. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Susan Eckert  
Election Administration Assistant