

BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

MEET: Time 6:00 4/7/2021

Where: Remote and Virtual via Zoom

Present: Elisabeth Mickenberg, Helen Rock, Jim Rader, Lenore Broughton, Ariana Cano, Michelle Lefkowitz, Kate Baldwin, Larry Granillo, Annie Schneider, Grace Grundhauser

Absent: Martha Gile, Charles Cashatt, Youth Member Rebecca Cunningham

Also Present: Amy Bovee, Assistant City Clerk

Meeting called to order by Chair Lis

Agenda: Lis Mickenberg added a discussion of Board terms to the agenda as item 7.5.

Meeting Length: The meeting length was set for 1 hour.

Minutes: Lenore Broughton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Helen Rock. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: N/A

Approval of Applications: Amy Bovee reported: February - New Registrations 328, Transfer out of Town 113, Purged 164. March – New Registrations 574, Transfer out of Town 105, Purged 57.

Michelle Lefkowitz mad a motion to accept the numbers as presented, seconded by Ariana Cano. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Voter Challenges and Voter Purges: Amy Bovee reported that the City Clerk’s Office had completed their review of ballots that were returned as undeliverable for the Annual City Election. Additionally, they had identified a list of voters who had not participated in the past two General Elections and were ready to be challenged due to inactivity. She requested that the Board approve challenging 2,605 voters. She reported that of the 2,605 voters, 1,445 were being challenged due to returned ballots, 895 were being challenged due to inactivity, and 265 were being challenged due to both returned ballots and inactivity.

Amy Bovee also reported that they had identified 4,273 voters to be purged. These were voters who were challenged in 2017 and had not voted since that time.

Michelle Lefkowitz made a motion, seconded by Ariana Cano, to challenge 2,605 voters and purge 4,273 voters. The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk's Report

Amy Bovee reported that the March Election had gone well. She also reported that staff had been reviewing the returned ballots to prepare the challenge list to complete further cleanup of the checklist.

Board Terms

Lis Mickenberg reported that there are two Board terms ending this year- Grace Grundhauser and Michelle Lefkowitz. Amy Bovee reported that applications would be due by May 14.

Recap March Election:

Board members discussed the March Election. Overall, things went smoothly and things were quiet at the polls.

Lenore Broughton inquired if any of the voter confirmation letters for voters who registered on Election Day had been returned as undeliverable. Amy Bovee reported that the letters had been mailed around March 20 and they had not received any undeliverable letters at this time.

The Board had a discussion around student voters and the implications of them registering to vote in Vermont versus their home state. The Board has observed that there is misinformation with student voters thinking that they can be registered both at home and at school. The Board agreed that it would be helpful to have a write up about how to handle this situation and what to tell students who want to know the implications of their registering to vote in Vermont. Amy Bovee also suggested that it may be helpful for the Board to complete their procedures document before the next election.

Michelle Lefkowitz raised concerns about the Mayor bringing donuts into the polling place for poll workers while he was a candidate. The Board discussed the matter and agreed to revisit the topic.

Lenore Broughton requested that the Board discuss Vote by Mail at the next meeting.

On a motion by Jim Rader, seconded by Grace Grundhauser, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Amy Bovee, Assistant City Clerk