

BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

MEET: Time 6:00            1/18/2017

Where: Community Room, Police Department

**Present:** Elisabeth Mickenberg, Janet Hicks, Alex Farrell, Helen Rock, Lenore Broughton, Jake Schumann, Martha Gile, Katherine Miles, Michelle Lefkowitz

**Absent:** Charles Cashatt

**Also Present:** Amy Bovee, Eugene Bergman

**Meeting called to order by Chair: Elisabeth @ 6:03 p.m.**

**New Business**

**a. Discuss Charter Change**

Lis Mickenberg asked the Board for any comments on a proposed Charter Change to change the membership of the Board from 10 to 12 members. Michelle Lefkowitz noted that the Charter language refers to the Freeman's Oath, but that it is now called the Vermont Voter's Oath. Lis Mickenberg stated she would attend the City Council public hearing on the Charter Change and recommend that correction.

**b. Discuss Voter Challenge**

The Board had previously received a complaint from Michael McGarghan stating that a Burlington voter, Robert Bristow-Johnson, was not eligible to vote in Burlington because he resides in Massachusetts. The Board reviewed the complaint from Mr. McGarghan, the response from Mr. Bristow-Johnson, and Mr. Bristow-Johnson's property and voter records with the City.

Michelle Lefkowitz made a motion to deem that Mr. Bristow-Johnson is eligible to remain on the voter checklist, seconded by Helen Rock. The motion passed unanimously.

The basis of the Board's finding was:

- He owns property and pays taxes at the Burlington address at which he is registered to vote.
- It is his intention to live and return to his Burlington address this July.
- He is not registered to vote anywhere else.
- His Driver's License and mailing address list his Burlington address.
- He has voted regularly in every election.

The Board also noted that they are only responsible for determining residency and eligibility to remain on the Voter Checklist. Any other issue raised by the complainant is not in the jurisdiction of the Board for Registration of Voters to address.

Michelle Lefkowitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Martha Gile. The Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Amy Bovee

B.R.V. Staff