

BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

MEET: Time 6:00 4/4/2017

Where: Community Room, Police Department

Present: Elisabeth Mickenberg, Janet Hicks, Helen Rock, Lenore Broughton, Jake Schumann, Michelle Lefkowitz, Charles Cashatt

Absent: Martha Gile, Katherine Miles, Alex Farrell

Also Present: Amy Bovee, Assistant City Clerk, Adam Stoumer, Emily Marcus, Bonnie Filker, Logan Key, Deirdre Gill, UVM Students

Meeting called to order by Chair: Elisabeth @ 6:10 p.m.

Agenda: The agenda was adopted as presented.

Meeting Length: The Board agreed that the meeting would end at 7:00pm.

Minutes: Motion made by Charles Cashatt, second by Jake Schumann, to adopt the minutes as presented.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Applications: Amy Bovee submitted: February: new voter registrations 51, purged 14, transferred out of town 38. March: new voter registrations 256, purged 24, transferred out of town 70.

Motion made by Michelle Lefkowitz to accept the numbers, seconded by Helen Rock. Motion passed unanimously.

Clerk's Report: Amy Bovee reported that the March Election had run smoothly. The only thing out of the ordinary that happened was a race for Inspector of Election in Ward 2 resulted in a tie vote. A runoff Election was in process at the time of the meeting to determine the winner.

Member's Report: None.

Review Application Signing Schedule

The Board set their schedule for February:

April 7 – Charles, April 11 – Janet, April 14 – Helen, April 18 – Lis, April 21 – Charles, April 25 – TBD, April 28 - Michelle

New Business

a. Recap March Election

Michelle Lefkowitz reported that she believed the Board for Registration of Voters should be administering Election Day Voter Registration. Amy Bovee explained that the legal advice that they received was that it was best to separate the functions of routine registrations and performing an inquiry if there were ever a challenge to someone's eligibility to register. Board members discussed the pros and cons of having the Board administer Election Day Registrations and agreed to revisit the issue.

Lenore Broughton raised questions on how Provisional Ballots would be handled. Amy Bovee explained that a Provisional Ballot would only be used in a General Election, and in all other situations the voter could be referred to a judge. If a person were to request a Provisional Ballot in a General Election, the process would be discussed with the Secretary of State's Office.

Board members expressed frustration that many voters have had Social Security Numbers not verified for many elections. Amy Bovee explained that the verification process takes place at the State level and does take some time. The Board is required to check in with voters to insure that they have the correct information on file. The Board agreed to continue to discuss the issue and think of ways to address the issue.

b. Plan Board Activities for Next Year

Lis Mickenberg reminded the Board that they need to finish work on the Board Rules. Helen Rock suggested they consider ways to improving voter turnout. The UVM students suggested use of social media and posting flyers.

c. New Member Recruitment

Lis Mickenberg reminded the Board that voters approved the addition of two new members to the Board in the March Election and asked Board members to work on recruiting good applicants for the two positions. She also reminded members Helen Rock and Janet Hicks that their terms were up and they would have to reapply for appointment this year if they wish to remain on the Board. She also suggested they discuss ways to recruit BRV assistants for future elections. UVM students in attendance suggested reaching out to the History, Political Science, and Environmental Studies department heads, as those students tend to be the most politically active.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 2, 6pm, Community Room, Police Department

Respectfully Submitted By:

Amy Bovee

Assistant City Clerk