

BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

MEET: Time 6:00 1/2/2018

Where: Community Room, Police Department

Present: Lis Mickenberg, Jim Rader, Katherine Miles, Weiwei Wang, Sue Adams, Lenore Broughton, Alex Farrell, Michelle Lefkowitz, Charles Cashatt, and Heidi Melbostad

Absent: Helen Rock, Martha Gile

Also Present: Amy Bovee, Assistant City Clerk

Meeting called to order by Chair Lis @ 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: Lis Mickenberg added March Election Planning to the agenda. The agenda was accepted as amended.

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

Minutes: Motion made by Jim Rader to accept the minutes with amendments to the meeting date, correction of the word “mad” to “made”, the addition of Helen Rock’s name to the DMV work group, and a correction to the next meeting date, seconded by Katherine Miles. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Applications: Amy Bovee submitted: December: new voter registrations 223, purged 24, transferred out of town 86.

Motion made by Michelle Lefkowitz to accept the numbers, seconded by Sue Adams. Motion passed unanimously.

Clerk's Report: Amy Bovee reported that the Board for Registration of Voters job description had been updated to make it clear that Board members are expected to work at the polls on Election Day. The updated job description has been posted to the City’s website. She noted that voter registration is starting to pick up in advance of Town Meeting Day. She reported that responses to voter challenge letters have slowed.

Member's Report: None.

Review Application Signing Schedule

January: Jan 5 – Charles, Jan 9 – Lenore, Jan 12 – Jim, Jan 16 – Holiday, Jan 19 – Weiwei, Jan 22 – Heidi, Jan 25 – Sue, Jan 30 – Michelle

February: Feb 2 – Alex, Feb 6 – Lenore, Feb 9 – Weiwei, Feb 13 – Heidi, Feb 16 – Jim, Feb 20 – Charles, Feb 23 – Lis, Feb 27 – Martha

New Business

a. March Election Preparation

Lis Mickenberg asked each Board member to try to find someone to help work at the polls with the Board on Election Day. Board members were assigned to wards as follows: Ward 1 – Lenore, Ward 2 – Lis, Ward 3 – Michelle, Ward 4 – Martha, Ward 5 – Jim, Ward 6 – Alex, Ward 7 – Katherine, Ward 8 – Charles. Helen, Weiwei, and Heidi will float.

The Board also requested training/refresher on election procedures and agreed to do this at their next meeting.

Board members discussed that it is confusing that there are both City Districts made up of two wards and State Legislative Districts. Michelle Lefkowitz made a motion that the Board for Registration of Voters makes a recommendation that the name be changed from district to zone for City Elections, or an alternate term other than district, to alleviate confusion with State Legislative Districts, seconded by Jim Rader. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Divide the Voter Checklist

Michelle Lefkowitz moved that pursuant to 17 V.S.A. §2501(a), the Board for Registration of Voters shall divide the checklist into eight wards for the March 6, 2018 Annual City Election, seconded by Alex Farrell. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Discuss SSN Response

Amy Bovee reported that she will draft a letter regarding SSN verification and send out to voters after the March Election. The Board requested a small notice outlining this issue be available to hand to voters on Town Meeting Day. Amy Bovee agreed to draft a notice for the Board to review at their next meeting.

d. Report from DMV Application Work Group

The DMV Application Work Group reported that they had not yet met, but would provide a report at the next meeting.

e. Discuss Board Rules

The Board discussed the idea of creating officer positions for a voter outreach coordinator and a communications director. They asked Amy Bovee to request a small budget to enable them to do outreach and communication activities.

Lenore Broughton made a motion to adjourn at 6:58pm, seconded by Sue Adams. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 6, 6pm, Community Room, Police Department

Respectfully Submitted By:

Amy Bovee, Assistant City Clerk