

Minutes  
Norfolk Electoral Board  
February 5, 2018

The meeting was convened at 2:09 PM, February 5, 2018 by Chairman Mike Ziegenfuss at the Office of Elections. Present were Chairman Ziegenfuss, Vice Chairman Michael Khandelwal, Secretary Barbara Klear, Director Stephanie Iles, and Deputy Director Moira Carlson.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Michael Khandelwal and seconded by Secretary Barbara Klear to approve the 928 Officers of Election for the term beginning March 1, 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

The Director brought the Board up-to-date on the status of the increase in the Officer of Election pay. Norfolk has not given its Officers a pay increase in over 10 years. We are currently not competitive with other nearby localities and each year find it more difficult to attract, recruit, and retain volunteers. The Director met with Deputy City Manager Michael Goldsmith to request the Ordinance to increase the pay. The increase will average to amount an increase of \$18-20,000+ per election.

The Director provided an update on campaign finance filings. Jane Bethel was late filing and paid her late fee. Michael Muhammed did not file his January 16<sup>th</sup> Campaign Finance Report. An email and letters were sent advising to file his report and submit payment to the City Treasurer in the amount of \$100 for failure to file.

The Chairman and the Director reported on their trip to the General Assembly for Legislative Day. VEBA and VRAV have introduced the following legislation before the General Assembly: 1) increase the State Board to five members with rotating terms and appointment of the Commissioner of Elections, 2) full reimbursement to localities for local Electoral Board and Registrar salaries, 3) increase salaries for local Registrars, and 4) increase the threshold for enumerating write-in votes. Other topics, such as early voting, were also discussed with local Senators, Delegates, and their Legislative Aides. There was representation of over 120 Electoral Board members and Registrars at Legislative Day. Governor Northam spoke to those assembled at the luncheon.

The Director provided an update on split precincts. Delegate Chris Jones introduced a bill freezing precinct lines and boundaries effective February 1, 2019 through May 2021 to allow for redistricting from the Census. Any indicated by the Department of Legislative Services and Delegate Chris Jones, any request to change Congressional District lines must be petitioned to the court. Possibly moving the 29 voters in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District of Granby Precinct to Titustown Precinct was discussed.

The Board discussed the site visits of the Southside STEM Academy at Campostella and the Southside Aquatics Center. These locations were viewed due to requests from the community to possibly relocate the Campostella Precinct from the current Southside Aquatics Center due to concerns regarding possible chlorine sensitivity. Also attending the site visit were members of the Southside Coalition, the Campostella Heights Civic League President, and members of the City's Commission for Persons with Disabilities. Chlorination of the pool at the Southside Aquatics Center is automated. The center is closed to other activities on Election Day. It was recommended that both the front door of the facility and rear door of the polling area be propped open on Election Day to allow for additional air circulation. There was indication of possible future construction of a new library on the site of the old Tucker School in front of the Southside Aquatics Center. The Director will inquire with Libraries regarding the potential use of this new building as a possible polling place. Discussion will continue.

The Board discussed political activity by Board members. There are no state guidelines. The Chair and Vice Chair will find out if other localities have guidelines at the upcoming VEBA conference in March that they will both be attending.

The Board will need to reorganize in March and there was discussion of rotating each office every year.

The Board agreed that the next meeting will be Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM.

With no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:



Barbara Klear

Barbara Klear, Secretary

February 5, 2018

Date