

Minutes

City of Charlottesville Electoral Board Meeting of April 3, 2019

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:45 pm on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 in the office of the Charlottesville General Registrar. Those present were Electoral Board members Anne Hemenway (Chair), Jon Bright (Vice Chair), General Registrar Rosanna Bencoach, Election Manager Melissa Morton and Project Assistant Joyce McKenney.

On a motion by the Chair, seconded by the Vice Chair, the Vice Chair was nominated to serve as Acting Secretary, due to the absence of Secretary Jim Nix.

On a motion by the Chair, seconded by the Acting Secretary, the agenda was approved unanimously as written.

On a motion by the Chair, seconded by the Acting Secretary, the meeting minutes of March 12, 2019 were approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Sena Magill commended the Board and staff for their hard work and their dedication to excellence.

Registrar Report

The General Registrar reported to the Board that the Charlottesville Democratic Party requested primaries on June 11, 2019 to nominate the party's candidates for City Council (3 seats), Clerk of Court, House of Delegates (57th District) and State Senate (25th District). The Republican Party did not request primaries for any of these offices.

The General Registrar reported that the Charlottesville Democratic Party had certified five candidates for City Council, who all filed at the same time. Under state law, the ballot listing order for primary candidates is determined by filing order. When qualified candidates file at the same time, for a local office, the Electoral Board is required to determine the ballot order "by lot". The five candidates, with their requested and approved ballot names are:

R. F. "Bob" Fenwick, Jr.
Sena A. Magill
Michael K. Payne
Brian R. Pinkston
J. Lloyd Snook, III

The General Registrar reported that the Democratic Party had certified one candidate for the primary for Clerk of Court, who was thereby nominated for the General Election:

Llezelle A. Dugger

The General Registrar drafted a letter for the Electoral Board's approval and Chair's signature requesting that the City Treasurer refund the filing fee to the unopposed primary candidate, as directed by 24.2-524 of the Code of Virginia.

The General Registrar reported that preparations for the Primary are on schedule and Election Manager Melissa Morton and her team are doing an excellent job. Voting Equipment Technicians Raenell Lockley and Bob Hodous recently attended a demonstration of new electronic pollbook equipment, held in Louisa County. Melissa, Raenell and Bob have completed an exhaustive inventory and reorganization of the equipment warehouse.

Drawing for Ballot Order

The Acting Secretary read the City Council Candidate names from slips prepared by the General Registrar; the Chair verified that the names were correct and all were included; the Acting Secretary then placed the written names in separate black film canisters for the drawing. The General Registrar mixed the containers in the closed container. One of the candidates was present.

The Acting Secretary announced that he was drawing the first position to be listed on the ballot, and then drew one canister from the container and handed it to the Chair who opened the canister and announced the name. This continued until all canisters had been drawn.

The names will appear on the ballot in the following order:

Michael K. Payne
R. F. "Bob" Fenwick, Jr.
Brian R. Pinkston
Sena A. Magill
J. Lloyd Snook, III

On a motion by the Chair, seconded by the Acting Secretary, and unanimously adopted, the board approved the draft letter requesting that the City Treasurer refund the filing fee to the unopposed primary candidate for Clerk of Court, Llezelle Dugger. The Chair then signed the letter.

Appointment of Election Officers

On a motion by the Chair, seconded by the Acting Secretary, and unanimously approved, one new officer of election was appointed for a three year term, Patrick Cory.

Other Business

Election Manager Melissa Morton informed the Board that our printing equipment has been certified by Hart for in-house ballot printing.

Project Assistant Joyce McKenney is working on the rewritten and redesigned "Election Day Guide" which had been requested by the Precinct Chiefs.

The Chair discussed the need for additional city funding for new electronic poll books and will talk with Interim City Manager Mike Murphy at the next quarterly meeting.

The next meeting of the Board will be held Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 5:45 pm in the City Hall 2nd floor conference room.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Bright, Acting Secretary

Anne Hemenway, Chair