

MINUTES

City of Charlottesville Electoral Board Meeting of December 14, 2021

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:08 p.m. on Tuesday, December 14 in the office of the Charlottesville General Registrar. Those present were Electoral Board members Jon Bright (Chair), Anne Hemenway (Vice Chair) and Jim Nix (Secretary), and Director of Elections and General Registrar Taylor Yowell.

On a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by the Secretary, the agenda was unanimously approved without change.

On a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by the Secretary, the minutes of the November 2-5 and November 9 meetings were unanimously approved without change.

Public Comment

No members of the public were present for this meeting.

Appointment of a Director of Elections and General Registrar

The Chair announced that after reviewing numerous applications and interviewing top candidates the Board has offered the position of Director of Elections and General Registrar for the City of Charlottesville to Taylor Yowell. Ms. Yowell has accepted the appointment effective this date.

Registrar's Report

Ms. Yowell reminded the Board that the budget review meeting for the office of the General Registrar will take place by Zoom at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, December 17. The Chair will attend with Ms. Yowell.

Ms. Yowell suggested that, since Ms. Laurel Isatchenko's duties require access to equipment stored in the warehouse, she be authorized access to this facility by the Board. On a motion by the Secretary, seconded by the Vice Chair, Ms. Isatchenko was unanimously approved to be added to the access roster for the warehouse.

Discussion Items

The Chair asked Ms. Yowell to outline her views on the optimum staffing level and organization for the office. There followed an extended discussion not only of staffing levels but also of the physical arrangement of the office to include potential changes in

the front of the office to facilitate the growth of in-person early voting. Ms. Yowell pointed out that an accumulation of equipment and material no longer required is an obstacle to improving the flexibility and efficiency of operations and that repeated requests for assistance with storage and disposal from other City government elements have been unsuccessful. She was urged by the Board to make further requests for assistance to include authorization to move surplus materiel to the city warehouse.

When the subject shifted to redistricting, Ms. Yowell showed the Board members proposed interactive maps currently under consideration for the House of Representatives, Virginia Senate and House of Delegates. While these have not yet been approved, they show that redistricting is unlikely to have any impact on Charlottesville elections.

The next meeting will be held in the office of the Charlottesville General Registrar starting at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 12, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

James Nix, Secretary

Jon Bright, Chair

Anne Hemenway, Vice Chair