



Frederick County Board of Elections

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MINUTES of the August 24, 2020 Meeting of The Frederick County Board of Elections

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM, via video and teleconference by the Board President, Mrs. Mary Lou Green.

PRESENT:

Mary Lou Green, President
Shirley McDonald, Vice President
Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary
Mary Costello, Board Member
Daniel B. Loftus, Board Counsel

Stuart Harvey, Election Director
Noreen L. Schultz, Election Deputy Director
Clifton Mowell, Election IT Specialist
Marc R. Welch, Election Administrative Assistant
MC Keegan-Ayer, County Council President

GUESTS:

Jim Filson, League of Women Voters
Steve Bohnel, Frederick News-Post

BOARD OF CANVASSERS:

159 ballots arrived too late for the primary election. Mrs. Costello made a motion to reject the untimely ballots. Mrs. McDonald seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS/CHANGES:

Mr. Harvey added discussion and an update for the mail-in ballot application to old business under the 2020 General Election. Mr. Hill, on behalf of Mr. Woodcock requested a discussion of return ballot postmarks under new business.

MINUTES:

Mrs. McDonald made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 1, 2020 meeting. Mrs. Costello seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mrs. Costello made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 3, 2020 meeting. Mrs. McDonald seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

COUNCIL LIASON:

The County Council is looking forward to Mr. Harvey's presentation regarding the general election at 4:30 on county cable 19 on August 25, 2020.

Mr. Harvey will also attend the Council's meeting at the end of September, to give the members an election update.

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OLD BUSINESS:

A. 2020 GENERAL ELECTION

1. VOTE BY MAIL APPLICATION MAILING

Mr. Harvey updated the Board that the VBM applications to all Frederick County registered voters will begin arriving in their mail this week. Ballots are expected to be mailed out in late September.

2. EARLY VOTING LOCATION - FREDERICK

Due to the use of the Frederick Senior Center as a food-distribution location, it is unavailable for use as an early voting site. Governor Thomas Johnson High School has been designated as the early voting site in the City. Mr. Welch and Mr. Mowell have conducted the required accessibility and site selection surveys. They also completed signal testing of the location. The use of this site will require approval by the State Board.

3. BALLOT DROP BOXES

Ballot drop boxes will be arriving in late September/early October. There will be a total of 8 drop boxes around Frederick County. Locations are being finalized.

4. EARLY VOTING LOCATION AND DATES

Early voting will begin on Monday, October 26, 2020 through Monday, November 2, 2020 from 7am-8pm each day. The 4 Early Voting sites will be: Governor Thomas Johnson High School, Catoctin High School (in place of Thurmont Library, which is too small to maintain physical distancing requirements,) Urbana Regional Library, and Middletown VFD Activities Building.

5. ELECTION JUDGES

Mrs. Schultz and Ms. Winer are processing election judge applications. Once vote center plans are approved at the State Board, judges will be assigned work locations and training. Mr. Welch updated the Board on the draft schedule, slated to begin week of September 15 through October 10. There will be 3 classes each Tuesday and Thursday, 2 classes each Wednesday and Saturday.

6. CANVASS

The State Board has authorized local boards to begin canvassing as early as October 1. Mr. Harvey anticipates beginning in mid-October, after the conclusion of election judge training. He will provide a recommended date at the next Board meeting.