

Electoral Board Meeting Minutes February 11, 2017

The Electoral Board of Arlington County met at 11:05 a.m. on Saturday, February 11, 2017, in the Office of Elections, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Suite 320. The meeting was called to order by Charlene Bickford, Chairman and present were David Bell, Vice Chairman; W. Scott McGeary, Secretary; Linda Lindberg, General Registrar; and Gretchen Reinemeyer, Deputy Registrar. Also present were Kip Malinosky and Cragg Hines from the Arlington County Democratic Committee.

The minutes from several previous meetings were approved.

Gretchen Reinemeyer presented the Board with a list of 1,058 individuals recommended for appointment as Officers of Election for the term beginning March 1, 2017 and ending February 28, 2018. The list was approved unanimously.

Board members and staff briefly reviewed several initiatives undertaken during the November 2016 Presidential election. Satellite voting was successful, with a relatively equal number of voters at the two additional locations, Madison and Walter Reed Centers. Kip Malinosky asked about the possibility of providing satellite voting for the November 2017 election at Walter Reed Center, noting specifically that party members providing rides to voters found that location more easily accessible during weekdays. Charlene Bickford asked him to place his request and reasoning in writing, and staff will explore all aspects of potentially providing satellite voting in non-Presidential years, looking at both plusses and minuses. The issue will be discussed further at the Board's March meeting.

Gretchen Reinemeyer noted that the Election Concierge program, a volunteer program for adult volunteers to assist on Election Day, was very successful. This program worked in tandem with the Election Page program for high school students. She did receive some minor feedback from chiefs about having to manage the volunteers, but it is believed these issues can be overcome.

Part of the Concierge/Page program included the use of lookup tablets, using an application Gretchen developed. This worked better than the previous practice of using spare pollbooks for lookup devices, plus it freed the pollbooks to be used as pollbooks.

Linda Lindberg presented the Board with a list of some of the election bills brought before the 2017 General Assembly and their current status. A particularly helpful bill is SB1467, which would permit the Central Absentee Precinct workers to begin tallies of hand-counted ballots prior to the current 7 p.m. start time. This will help tremendously in high-turnout elections and likely prevent extremely late nights.

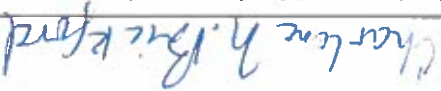
Linda Lindberg advised the Board that the new precinct changes for 053 Met Park and 054 Garfield Park, along with several polling place changes, had been approved by the County Board and she was awaiting notification of the database update from the Virginia Department of Elections, after which voter cards will be mailed to affected voters. She also noted that the Rosslyn Precinct will need to move out of the Fire Station #10 because of the pending construction process.

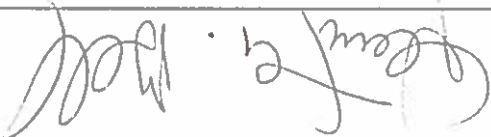
Board members were advised that the June 13, 2017 primaries will likely be Democratic for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and 45th House of Delegates; while the Republican primaries will likely be for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General. The Arlington County Democratic Committee will select their nominee for County Board via a caucus in May.

The Board set the date and time of their next meeting, during which they will elect officers for the coming year, for 8 a.m. on March 2, 2017.

Announcements and upcoming events:

- David Bell has been reappointed to the Electoral Board for a term beginning March 1, 2017 and ending February 29, 2020.
 - Gretchen Reinemeyer will attend a special Election Center workshop on election security in Savannah February 15-17.
 - The Virginia Electoral Board Association (VEBA) Annual Meeting at The Homestead is March 3-5. All three Board members and Linda Landberg will attend.
 - The dates for the annual training by the Virginia Department of Elections are tentatively scheduled for the last week of June, at a Richmond location to be announced. Under current law, the most recently appointed Electoral Board member, in this case David Bell, is required to attend, along with the registrar. Other Board members and staff may also attend. Members were encouraged to respond to a recent topic survey distributed by the Department.
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.


Charlene N. Bickford, Chairman


David A. Bell, Vice Chairman


W. Scott McGahey, Secretary