



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2745



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING
January 10, 2018

The District of Columbia Board of Elections (“the Board”) held its Regular Monthly Meeting on Wednesday January 10, 2018 in the Board’s Hearing Room, located in Suite 750, 1015 Half Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. The Board’s Chairman Michael Bennett was present, and Board Member Dionna Lewis was also in attendance. Also present on the dais were Kenneth McGhie, the Board’s General Counsel; William SanFord, the Office of Campaign Finance (“OCF”) General Counsel, standing in for Cecily Collier-Montgomery, the Director of OCF; and Alice Miller, the Board’s Executive Director.

Chairman Bennett called the meeting to order at 10:39 a.m.

The meeting agenda was approved and adopted.

The minutes of the last regular meeting on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 were moved for approval and adopted without objection.

Mr. William SanFord announced the statistics for OCF as follows:

- December 10th required filing date for Reports of Receipts and Expenditures. 79 required filers, 69 filers filed timely, one filer requested an extension, and 9 failures to timely file which were referred to the Office of the General Counsel.
 - Committees that failed to timely file included the following: Crawford for At-Large City Council; Robert Quintero, Treasurer; Justine Greene, At-Large Justin Green, Treasurer; MMC Foundation, Richard Kassner, Treasurer; 1119 SEIU PAC, George Gresham, Treasurer; Credit Union PAC of Washington, D.C., Glen Cooney, Treasurer; Gertrude Stein Democratic Club, Jessica Pierce, Treasurer; Greater Washington Board of Trade, James Dinegar, Treasurer; Ward 4 Democrats, Kimberly Tignor, Treasurer; and the Mobilization Project, John Jernick, Treasurer.
- The Reports Analysis and Audit Division conducted 45 audits, and 42 of the audits conducted were of political action committees and a total of 22 principal campaign committees received further information letters.
- The Reports Analysis and Audit Division initiated two random periodic audits: Brianne for D.C. 2018, initiated September 27, 2017, and the Metropolitan PAC, initiated on September 12, 2017; and the ongoing random periodic audit was a Ward 4 Constituent Services Fund initiated October 30, 2017.
- The Reports Analysis and Audit Division issued the Ward 7 Constituent Services Fund Audit on December 27, 2107 and the Do Something Constituent Services Fund for Ward 8 on December 18, 2017.

- The Office of the General Counsel also issued 11 orders, which included the following: three orders were issued in which no fines were imposed and eight orders were issued in which fines totaling \$15,100 were imposed for failure to timely file a report.
 - The fines were imposed against the following respondents: Zukerburg for Attorney General, a fine of \$2,300 was imposed; Drew for D.C. received a fine of \$200; Holmes for Ward 8 received a fine of \$500; the Committee to Elect Natalie Williams received a fine of \$2,650; Committee to Elect Khalid Pitts received a fine of \$2,650; Justin Green At-Large Principal Campaign Committee received a fine of \$2,650; the Gertrude Stein Democratic PAC received a fine of \$2,650; and the Gertrude Stein Democratic PAC also received a fine of \$1,500.
- During the month of December 2017, the Office of General Counsel referred 18 petitions for enforcement to the Office of General Counsel for the Board of Elections.
- The Office of the General Counsel maintained three open investigations for campaign contributions violations: Lee Calhoun, OCF-2013-013; Stanley Straughter, OCF-2013-014, and Jeffery Thompson, OCF-2013-015.

Mr. McGhie presented the General Counsel's report.

- Mr. McGhie gave a litigation status report: the only matter in court is *Paul Cohn v. the D.C. Board of Elections*. That was an appeal by Mr. Cohn to the Board's September 19th order rejecting his challenge to the initial petition, which was Initiative Number 77, which dealt with the minimum wage. The D.C. Court of Appeals has affirmed the Board's motion for summary affirmance. Mr. Cohn, who represents the Board of Trade, filed a motion for reconsideration. The intervenors joined in our motion, and everything is pending before the Court of Appeals on the motion for reconsideration.

Ms. Miller gave the Executive Director's report.

- the final relocation of the Precincts Numbered 6, 24, 59, 91, 92, 113, 129, 136, and a Ward 7 Early Voting site.
 - Arlin Budoo, Facility Operations Manager for the Board of Elections, presented the precinct relocations to the Board to take final action to move those precincts for the June 19th election.
 - Precinct Number 6. Currently located at Georgetown Community Library, we're looking to relocate back to Duke Ellington High School.
 - Precinct Number 24 which is Marie Reed Elementary School. We will be looking to relocate back to Marie Reed Elementary School.
 - Precinct Number 59, Coolidge Senior High School. Currently, Coolidge is now under renovations and it will not be available for the upcoming mayoral primary election. We are looking to relocate to Tacoma Community Center located at 300 Van Buren Street.
 - Precinct Number 91, Watkins Elementary School. This is another site that was not available prior to 2016 general election because of renovations. Those renovations have been completed and the school has now reopened.
 - Precinct Number 92, Kenilworth Elementary School which was not available prior to the 2016 general election.
 - Precinct Number 113 which currently is East River Washington Senior Wellness Center. I will be relocating to the Hillcrest Recreation Center

located at 3100 Denver Street, Southeast due to accessibility issues and space.

- Precinct Number 129, Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, is currently closed for renovations and the renovations are not scheduled to be completed until 2020. I am looking to relocate right next door to the First Congressional United Church of Christ located at 945 G Street,
 - Precinct Number 136, Leading Age. We relocated to Leading Age from All Souls Episcopal Church back in 2004 because of accessibility issues at the church. The church is requesting that we relocate to All Souls after they went through a complete renovation of the facility where they did address those accessibility issues.
 - The last relocation is the early voting site for Ward 7, Benning/Dorothy Height Library. We are looking to relocate to the Deanwood Recreation Center located at 1350 49th Street and we'll be using the gymnasium at that location.
 - For the record, on several of these proposals, they are accessible with slight modifications. Slight modification may be proper signage posted at a location.
 - **BOARD ACTION:** unanimously accepted as final poll relocations.
- The Board has fully moved to its new location at 1015 Half Street S.E. Washington D.C. 20003. We physically started working here on January 2nd. We want to thank clearly the staff for working through the holiday period to get this done and Department of General Services, who worked very closely with us to make this happen, as well as Members of the Council who supported the Board in this move.
 - The pickup for the nominating petitions will begin January 26th for primary election.
 - We are scheduling an open house for this facility for next Wednesday, January 17th, from 3:00 to 7:00, and on next Friday, January 19th at 11:00.
 - All four major parties have submitted party plans for the Board to conduct any party elections during the June primary.
 - ESign is basically ready to go. We will have 100 iPads available with a security deposit of \$350, which they will get returned back to them once the pads are returned. The circulators will have an option of also using their own device. The traditional pen and paper process will still be available to collect signatures.
 - We also have a contract in place now for the redesign of the website. The website will be more user-friendly, and we are targeting it to be accessible for members of the public who have accessibility issues. The goal is to have that final design to be launched by the first of April.
 - The Voter Registration System solicitation is underway. The target date for the award of that up to \$3,000,000 contract is the end of March.
 - Last Friday we met with the Budget Review Team for the Administrative Mayor's Office to discuss both the FY18 spending pressures and the FY19 budget development. We were promised that the current FY18 spending pressures would be given priority.
 - We are facing serious spending pressures and I do want to put on the record that this move had nothing to do with our fiscal budget because this move was all capital funding, which was in the capital budget by DGS.

- **Member Lewis:** In terms of the accessibility of the new website, is there going to be foreign language accessibility considerations or translation options, other than English? Ms. Miller confirmed that there will be alternative translations to comply with language access.

Mr. Sindram raised public matters:

- In response to his question regarding when the next Board meeting will occur, Chairman Bennett put on the record **that the Board is considering moving the meeting to February 1, 2018.** Part of what's driving that are just schedules but the other is we have a distinguished Board member (Ms. Lewis) who is scheduled to deliver her first child on February the 12th and we wanted to try and make the Board meeting as far away from that as possible, so that we don't have a situation here.
- He requested a hard copy of the Constituent Services Fund for Ward 4 audit when it is publicly available.

Senator Michael Brown raised public matters:

- On your website you refer to my office, in some places as shadow senator. It is a pejorative term that is actually a nickname. You probably know when the office was created as a United States Senator. It appears on the ballot as United States Senator. It appears on the nominating forms as United States Senator. So I ask that in the few places where the term shadow senator or shadow representative appear in the nomenclature that you use, that the term be removed.
- **Chairman Bennett** Your request is so noted. I don't think there is a need to do anything in writing, is there, for that? And I don't see a reason why we have to not do it. So if, indeed there is something we find that does not allow us to do it, we'll certainly give you notice of that..

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.