

GOVERNMENT  
OF  
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

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TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 18, 2014

+ + + + +

The Special Meeting of the District of Columbia Board of Elections convened in Room 280 North, 441 4th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20001, pursuant to notice at 10:00 a.m., Deborah K. Nichols, Chairman, presiding.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

DEBORAH K. NICHOLS, Chairman  
STEPHEN I. DANZANSKY, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Office of Campaign Finance  
KENNETH J. MCGHIE, General Counsel

Office of Campaign Finance  
CLIFFORD D. TATUM, Executive Director

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 10:09 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: I hereby  
4 call to order a special meeting of the Board  
5 of Elections. Today is Tuesday, February 18,  
6 the time is 10:10 a.m. We are meeting in Room  
7 280 North of One Judiciary Square.

8 Without objection -- well let me  
9 start with I am Deborah Nichols, Chairman of  
10 the Board of Elections. With me this morning  
11 is member Stephen Danzansky. Also present Mr.  
12 Ken McGhie our general counsel. Mr. Clifford  
13 Tatum our Executive Director.

14 Without objection, the agenda for  
15 this mornings Special Meeting is adopted. Our  
16 first order of business will be the approval  
17 of the relocation of Precinct 121 for the  
18 April 1 primary election. And Mr. Tatum will  
19 walk us through that.

20 MR. TATUM: Madam Chair the  
21 Precinct 121, which is the Achievement Prep  
22 Academy Charter School, has served as our

1 polling place in November, 2012, is not  
2 available for the upcoming April 1, 2014  
3 mayoral primary. And the facility manager,  
4 Tanya Griffith informed the Board that the  
5 multipurpose room would be used for the  
6 Citywide CAS Testing on that date.

7 So therefore, the staff has  
8 recommended that we relocate the polling place  
9 to combine it with Precinct Number 125,  
10 Hendley Elementary School. I'm sorry, I  
11 misstated that. The staff has proposed that  
12 we relocate permanently to Ferebee-Hope  
13 Recreation Center.

14 Ferebee, F-E-R-E-B-E-E, Hope  
15 Recreation Center located at 3999 8th Street  
16 SE. There are approximately 3,885 registered  
17 voters. The proposed location would be the  
18 rec center in the auditorium.

19 The facility is accessible. The  
20 voting area would be the auditorium. The  
21 staff has indicated the voting space is  
22 excellent. The lighting is excellent. And

1 there is a parking lot and street parking.

2 And it's approximately two blocks  
3 from the previous location which was  
4 Achievement Prep Academy. So this would be a  
5 permanent location for this precinct.

6 MEMBER DANZANSKY You say Polk,  
7 Polk, P-O-L-K?

8 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Ferebee-  
9 Hope, H-O-P-E.

10 MEMBER DANZANSKY Oh, okay.

11 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Recreation  
12 Center. All right, so we would need a motion  
13 to publish this relocation for comment.

14 MR. TATUM: That's correct.

15 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: This  
16 proposed relocation for comment in the  
17 register. And so I would need a motion to  
18 that extent.

19 MEMBER DANZANSKY So moved Madam  
20 Chair.

21 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: All in  
22 favor?

1 (Chorus of ayes.)

2 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: All opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Ayes have  
5 it.

6 MR. TATUM: Madam Chair?

7 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Yes?

8 MR. TATUM: In our last meeting,  
9 we proposed to move Precinct Number 101, 1-0-  
10 1, River Terrace Elementary School to The  
11 Chateau. The DCPS has determined that they  
12 will be able to open River Terrace Elementary  
13 School for us. So I would like for the Board  
14 to consider a motion to I guess, recall it,  
15 can we -- how would we say that to?

16 MR. MCGHIE: To rescind.

17 MR. TATUM: To rescind the  
18 previous motion to relocate River Terrace to  
19 The Chateau.

20 MEMBER DANZANSKY I move we do  
21 rescind.

22 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: All right,

1 the Board's preliminary approval of the  
2 relocation to The Chateau back to River  
3 Terrace, the motion's on the floor. All in  
4 favor? Aye.

5 (Chorus of ayes.)

6 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: All opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: The ayes  
9 have it.

10 MR. TATUM: Madam Chair that's all  
11 I have.

12 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Thank you  
13 Mr. Tatum. We will now move to consideration  
14 of the approval of a political party name.  
15 The people for A Sound Society Party. Mr.  
16 McGhie I will ask you to handle that matter  
17 for us. Present that matter rather.

18 MR. MCGHIE: Would the Board  
19 consider its adjourning for five minutes for  
20 me to call the necessary --

21 MEMBER DANZANSKY I'm sorry I  
22 can't hear.

1 MR. MCGHIE: I said would the  
2 Board consider adjourning for five minutes to  
3 have me call the proposer's cell phone number?

4 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: All right we  
5 are recessed for five minutes to see if we can  
6 contact -- what is the contact?

7 MR. MCGHIE: Mr. Ben Foshager.  
8 Foshager.

9 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Okay. We  
10 are recessed for five minutes to see if we can  
11 contact the proposer of this political party.

12 (Whereupon, the foregoing matter  
13 went off the record at 10:14 a.m.  
14 and went back on the record at  
15 10:21 a.m.)

16 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: This is the  
17 call back to order the Special Meeting of the  
18 Board for February 18. The time is 10:22. We  
19 are in the -- about to discuss the  
20 consideration and approval of a political  
21 party name, the People for a Strong Society  
22 Party. Mr. McGhie is in the process of making



1 that presentation.

2 MR. MCGHIE: All right, Mr. Ben  
3 Foshager made an application for the approval  
4 of a political party name. The proposed party  
5 name is People for a Strong Society.

6 And the approval of a party name  
7 must be done pursuant to 3 DCMR, Section 1502,  
8 approval of political parties. And one of  
9 those requirements is that the individual file  
10 a completed Application for Approval.

11 It states on the 1502.3 that each  
12 application shall include the name, address,  
13 telephone number and voter registration number  
14 of the Chairperson, Treasurer, and other  
15 principal officers and each member of the duly  
16 authorized local committee of its party in the  
17 District.

18 Mr. Foshager's application is not  
19 complete. It does not have a complete  
20 address. I will also note for the record that  
21 he is not present. The telephone number that  
22 he gave us is for a homeless shelter. I tried

1 to locate him at that number at 10:15 this  
2 morning. And they answered this as Catholic  
3 Charities Homeless Shelter.

4 So my recommendation to the Board  
5 is that they deny approval of this  
6 application.

7 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Thank you  
8 Mr. McGhie. Is there any discussion?

9 MEMBER DANZANSKY Madam Chair yes.  
10 We do have a statutory responsibility and a --  
11 there is provision in that statute by which  
12 the Board is to measure in its judgment  
13 whether a name tends to confuse or mislead the  
14 public or for any other good cause.

15 And I must say, one of the  
16 essential ingredients of this is that we're  
17 talking about political parties. And the  
18 political party is -- has a definition. It  
19 means a group of people organized to acquire  
20 and exercise political power.

21 Generally, and this is the reason  
22 we have a public hearing, in the past groups

1 who seek to get a name approved have come in  
2 with mission statements and bylaws and other  
3 provisions indicating that they are a genuine  
4 political party. And that the name does or  
5 does not, may or may not confuse the public.

6 Here we have none of that. And  
7 basically, it makes it very difficult, in  
8 addition to the problems with the application  
9 to proceed. So I would just say this is not  
10 right for a Board decision at this present  
11 time and should not be accepted as a  
12 legitimate name.

13 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Thank you  
14 Mr. Danzansky. And I approve -- I agree, not  
15 approve. I agree that within the definition  
16 of political party, of course the definition  
17 it states members of an association committee  
18 or organization. And this seems to be just  
19 one individual.

20 So we don't really have a complete  
21 application. Can I say that?

22 MEMBER DANZANSKY Yes.

1 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: A complete  
2 application. So I will entertain a motion not  
3 to approve the application for the People for  
4 a Strong Society political party.

5 MEMBER DANZANSKY For the reasons  
6 stated Madam Chair, I move that the  
7 application for a People for a Strong Society  
8 Party be rejected by the Board.

9 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: A motion is  
10 on the floor. All in favor aye.

11 (Chorus of ayes.)

12 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: All opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Ayes have  
15 it. Is there anymore business to come before  
16 the Board this morning?

17 (No response.)

18 CHAIRPERSON NICHOLS: Hearing  
19 none, this meeting is adjourned. The time is  
20 10:26 a.m. on February 18, 2014.

21 (Whereupon, the above-entitled  
22 proceeding was concluded at 10:26 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript


In the matter of: Special Board Meeting

Before: BOE

Date: 02-18-2014

Place: Washington, D.C.

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under  
my direction; further, that said transcript is a  
true and accurate record of the proceedings.

  
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Court Reporter

**NEAL R. GROSS**

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