



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



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING
March 1, 2017

The District of Columbia Board of Elections (“the Board”) held its Regular Monthly Meeting on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 in the Board’s Hearing Room, located in Suite 280 North, One Judiciary Square, 441 4th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Board’s Chairman, Michael Bennett, was present, as were Board Members Dionna Lewis and Michael Gill. Also present on the dais were Kenneth McGhie, the Board’s General Counsel, Cecily Collier-Montgomery, the Director of the Office of Campaign Finance (“OCF”), and Alice Miller, the Board’s Executive Director.

Chairman Bennett called the meeting to order at 10:41 a.m.

The minutes of the last regular meeting on February 1, 2017 were moved for approval and adopted without objection.

The meeting agenda was approved and adopted.

Ms. Miller gave the Executive Director’s report.

- Mail canvass update was initiated by the January 31st statutory deadline as a means of outreach to voters who did not cast ballots in last year’s Presidential election. The process entails mailing a non-forwardable postcard to verify the voter’s address.
 - We canvassed a total of 154,000 voters. We’ve had 14,101 undeliverable canvas cards: 211 belong to individuals who have moved within the District of Columbia; 1,004 outside the District of Columbia; 309 deceased, 35 name changes; 6,400 individuals have confirmed their addresses; and 278 individuals did not respond at all.
- This year, the Board was selected for the Outstanding State Practice award at the National Association of Election Directors meeting. The award was given for the Board’s program anticipating election worker no-shows called “Plan B.”
 - Average age of poll workers during the last election cycle decreased to 49.8 years of age, which is down from 61 years old from the 2012 election.
- The Board’s performance oversight hearing held last week before the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety was presided by Council Member Allen. The Board was asked to respond to budget questions and the answers are available for review upon request. The Performance hearings were attended by Michael Sindram and a representative from University Legal Services who testified regarding polling place accessibility. The Board formally asked the committee if they could request school closures on Election Day to accommodate the full use of the school facilities without fear of endangering students during the day.

- Ms. Miller noted for the record that the nationwide inaccessibility rate hovers around 73%, while the district has approximately 21 precincts out of 143 that are not fully accessible (15% inaccessibility).
- The Board has been asked for comments concerning two pieces of legislation proposed by Council Member Allen: One has to do with emailing the voter guide to those that provide an email address; and the other has to do with the confidentiality of voters in maintaining their ability not to be on the voters' rolls. If they are victim of sexual abuse, domestic violence or something of that nature, we'd keep their addresses private

Mr. McGhie presented the General Counsel's report.

Mr. McGhie introduced final rulemaking to amend Chapter 5, Voter Registration. This codifies the board's current interpretations of existing law concerning the qualification of electors who are no longer incarcerated. This was proposed to address the issue of people that were in a halfway house are not deemed incarcerated. The second portion deals with accepting electronic forms of proof of residence so that everybody that has an iPhone or iPad can pull up their utility bill as an accepted form of identification.

BOARD ACTION: The Board approved the final regulations.

Ms. Collier Montgomery announced the statistics for OCF as follows:

- On February 23, 2017, Ms. Montgomery and Mr. SanFord appeared before the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety to provide testimony on the OCF performance for the fiscal year '16 to present.
- January 31st filing deadline for the filing of the reports of receipts and expenditures for Principal Campaign Committees (PCCs) and Political Action committees (PACs) with 131 required filers, 116 filed timely; 2 requests for extension were granted; 14 committees that failed to file were referred to the Office of General Counsel for the initiation of the enforcement process.
- January 18th was the deadline for the filing of the summary financial statement by ANC candidates. 469 required filers; 347 timely filed; 122 filed late
- referrals to the Office of the General Counsel, with respect to the delinquent filing of the January 31st report, the following campaign committees were referred: Oliver from Ward 4, Emily Gumford Treasurer; Lubiberg for Attorney General, Annette Ramsey Treasurer; Patterson from Ward 8, Jack Patterson Treasurer; Committee to elect Natalie Williams, Natalie Williams Treasurer; Committee to Elect Colleen Pitt, 2014, Colleen Pitt candidate; Rhea Brandon for Ward 4, Treasurer; Friends of Dion Bionce Junior, Ernest Williams Treasurer, Home for Ward 8, Steven Sike, Treasurer; Carter At Large, 2014, Bishop Carter Chamber, Treasurer; and Brandon Todd for Ward 4, Ben Soda Treasurer.
- The PAC referred to the general counsel's office are: District of Columbia Andrew Kline Treasurer, Gertrude Stein Democratic Political Action Committee, Jessica Pierce treasurer; Better Leadership, Richard Taphon, Treasurer; and Statehood Yes, Judith Beth Treasurer.
- Two new committees that registered with OCF in February Ward 1 City Council registered February 2nd, Laurie Parker Committee to Elect Laurie Parker for DC Council, Ward 1 City Council, February the 7th, Dustin Canner, Dustin DC Canner for DC Mayor, February 22nd; Alpha Ba, Alpha Ba Esquire for Mayor, registered on February 23rd.

- One entry conference during February, on the 16th. The participants were Dustin Carter, candidate, Dustin DC, candidate for Mayor; and Leah Duggin Treasurer, Alpha Ba, Esquire, for Mayor
- OCF Audit Branch conducted 202 desk reviews of financial reports, which had been with the agency. Audit branch also sent out as a result of those desk reviews, 31 requests for additional information.
- OCF has ongoing periodic audits of the following committees: Brandon Todd for Ward 4 and re-elect Vincent Orange 2016.
- OCF has initiated a new audit of Vincent Gray 2016, and the audit letter was issued on March 1st, 2017.
- OCF has initiated 4 new random periodic audits of the following political action committees: DC Dental Political Action Committee, DC Dental Tag State Committee, ward 3, Democrat and SEIU Local 500.

Mr. William SanFord presented the General Counsel Report

- The Office of the General Counsel received 14 referrals and conducted 13 informal hearings in which 13 orders were issued.
 - 8 orders for failure to timely file reports were issued in which no fines were imposed; 1 order for a request for additional information, in which no fine was imposed; 3 orders for failure to timely file reports were issued in which fines totaling \$2,700 were imposed And one order arising from investigation was issued in which a fine of \$10,000 was imposed.
- During the month of February, the Office of the General Counsel collected \$700 in fines by the SEIU PAC.
- The Office of the General Counsel maintained a total of 4 open investigations and no new investigations were opened.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.