

Minutes
Elections Advisory Panel
July 21, 2010

Members present:

Leslie Goller, chair
Kathy Carithers

Dan O'Connor
Natalie Alden

Patt Sher (by phone)
Tracie Collier (soe staff)

Visitors:

Scott Wiley
Josh Cockrell

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by EAP chair, Leslie Goller.

Old Business

EAP membership and vacancies – Josh Cockrell and Scott Wiley will be panel members by the August meeting. Josh Cockrell will replace Fred Engness and Scott Wiley will replace Jim Minion. One vacate seat remaining (vacated by Gwen Chandler-Thompson.)

Panel agreed upon a resolution to encourage voters to vote early and vote by mail for the Primary Election.

L. Goller asks for the panel to make a motion for the resolution. J. Cockrell asked reason for the resolution? What id the cost? L. Goller explained no cost for resolution. It is a no cost avenue to advertise early voting and voting by mail through media outlets, websites, announced at City Council, etc.

Panel discussed postage is now required on absentee ballot. Cost? T. Collier stated it will cost voters first class postage (one .44 cent stamp) to mail their absentee ballot. Panel suggested the postage required should be posted on the website. Members stated the political parties should be urged to tell voters about the postage requirement on absentee ballots.

L. Goller stated the early voting weekend hours had been restored by City Council. Early Voting will be held from Monday – Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Motion: D.O'Connor to submit a resolution to encourage voters to vote early and vote by mail for the primary election. N. Alden second. Motion passed unanimously by EAP

S. Wiley suggested a letter to City Council or the City Council President regarding restoring funding to the Supervisor of Elections Office for postage- \$31,000 for Primary Election and \$88,000 for the General Election.

Motion: D.O'Connor to submit a letter to City Council President regarding restoration of funds for postage on absentee ballots for the primary and general elections.

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D. O'Connor also suggested the letter to the City Council should thank the council members for restoring funds to allow early voting hours on Sunday. He also added thanks for the purchase of the AutoMARK machines that allow voters with disabilities privacy in voting. K. Carithers second. Motion passed unanimously by EAP.

New Business

Website-panel suggests General information tab and precinct finder tab would be helpful.

SOE Holland states the precinct finder is on the website but will check to make sure it is easily accessible. Then he discussed the MOVE ACT and the website access to track absentee ballots.

L.Goller asked SOE Holland, "How do we get folks interested in coming to meetings?"

SOE Holland suggests finding folks that are interested in participating with the panel.

S.Wiley suggests meeting notices are sent out a week in advance to give members time to adjust schedules.

Other Business

T. Collier stated Logic and Accuracy Testing on election equipment on August 2nd at the Election Center. Registration deadline is July 26th for the Primary Election.

Also, all new EAP members will begin to receive all press releases sent out to media outlets for information.

L. Goller – nominations for vice chair?? Term for the office is one (1) calendar year. Panel decided to wait on voting for a Vice-chair until the visitors; Scott Wiley and Josh Cockrell are officially appointed as EAP members.

Motion: D.O'Connor to submit a letter expressing condolences to the family of Sandra Henderson, former Deputy Supervisor of Elections that passed away on Sunday, July 4, 2010. N. Alden second. Motion passed.

L. Goller asks SOE Holland about political signage. She suggests that some candidates be contacted due to improper candidate information and signage.

SOE Holland explained the new temporary election signage guidelines due to a new city ordinance. Examples given by SOE Holland, all candidate signage should be removed within seven (7) days after the election. Residential signage has changed from 24 ft. to 16 ft. with an allowance of one (1) sign per residential lot for each candidate.

L. Goller also suggested to SOE Holland to post the Felon Ad on the Supervisor of Elections website.

The next meeting was scheduled Wednesday, August 18, 2010 at 3 p.m.