Minutes
Elections Advisory Panel
August 18, 2010

Members present:
Leslie Goller, chair, Dan O'Connor, Natalie Alden, Scott Wiley, Josh Cockrell,

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm by EAP Chair, Leslie Goller.

Motion: L. Goller to approve the minutes with corrections from the April 28th
Motion to accept the minutes: D. O'Connor, second: N. Alden.

Old Business
Letters sent to the family of Sandra Henderson expressing sympathy for the loss,
City Council President to fill the EAP vacancy, and funding for postage for
Absentee Ballots.

L. Goller cited error of the meeting notice of the calendar on being posted for the
meeting to convene at 4pm instead 3pm. She corrected error by stating that all
EAP meeting will be 3pm, every third Wednesday of the month.

Website Recommendations
L. Goller suggested information regarding the postage required for absentee
ballots should be posted closer to the top of the page and early voting
information should be moved.

By-Laws
According to Karen Chastain from OGC clarified that EAP officers are to serve
one calendar year and elections occurs before term is for one year.
J.Cockrell requested a copy the EAP by-laws. L. Goller stated the by-laws are
posted on the Supervisor of Elections (www.duvalelections.com) or Tracie Collier
will have a copy for you.

New Business:
Funding for Absentee Ballots
Panel discussed how they could reach out to the City Council Finance
Committee to ask them to restore the funding for postage for absentee ballots.
L. Goller explained to the panel that most absentee ballots are rejected due to
signatures and ballots being wet or soiled.

Problems with Voting
L.Goller asked panel to share any challenges they experienced in voting.
J.Cockrell stated his girlfriend voted early at the San Jose Blvd. site and was told
she could not vote 'early' if she wasn't in her precinct. Discussed matter with
SOE Holland to correct.

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<u>Precinct Accessibility</u>
N. Alden stated the accessibility survey for the Division of Elections went very well and she was impressed with Duval County libraries-Beaches, Mandarin, and Regency Square for adhering to the suggestions to correct a few issues at the site. She also expressed how positive SOE Holland received the suggestions.

<u>Sign Ordinances</u>
L. Goller stated that the panel must be active in making sure all campaigns adhere to the sign ordinance. The rule is 1 sign per candidate and the height limitation is 6' when you are talking with community groups and organizations.
J.Cockrell asked is that in regards to commercial or private property?
L. Goller answers commercial- 1 sign per property.
Same rule for commercial and residential? (No answer provided in notes)

Panel discussed the city's role in enforcing the sign ordinances especially concerning the libraries. S. Wiley expressed that the folks adhere to the sign ordinances 500 times better now than two years ago.

L. Goller discussed with group to encourage people to abide by the sign ordinances. It is our duty to educate the community. S.Wiley states that it will never be perfect, but definitely is better at the Beach.
J.Cockrell asked what is the allotted time signs should be removed after the election. Seven (7) days, L.Goller answered.

General Election- Suggestions
Update notices, such as postage absentee ballots. L.Goller will suggest to SOE Holland to have it move up to the top of the page (website).
K. Carithers suggested letter to the Editor from L. Goller, chair, addressing the postage cost (.44) to return the absentee ballot.

J. Cockrell suggested savings he money from issuing pre-ballot bios on candidates to the community. Panel decided to submit an informal notice to SOE Holland expressing the EAP's opinion of not printing the bios in the sample ballots- 4, 000 vs. 33, 000.

L.Goller stated for the upcoming election there will be 10-15 precinct changes.

L.Goller announced the topics to discuss at the next meeting-educating people of election-related changes and website updates.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2010 at 3:00 pm.