

Draft Minutes
Election Advisory Panel
December 7, 2011

Members present:

Leslie Goller, chair; Scott Wiley, Natalie Alden, Dan O'Connor, and Deborah Gonzalez

Members absent:

Josh Cockrell, vice chair; Kathy Carithers, Patt Sherr, Joseph Mosley and Tracie Collier

Visitor:

Jerry Holland, Supervisor of Elections and Justin Gicalone

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

Old Business:

Website Recommendations-

No new recommendations for the website.

Duval County Redistricting-

Precinct changes will occur after January 31, 2012 and will be taken to City Council for approval by March 1, 2012.

State Redistricting Status-

SOE Holland stated the State released seven maps. There are two different versions for Northeast Florida.

Political Signage-

D. Gonzales asked the panel members, "Why can't we take it upon ourselves to do something about the political signage?" L. Goller stated some places are private property.

Actions by EAP or EAP members-

No actions taken by panel members since last meeting.

New Business:

Implementation of New Election Laws (Early Voting Hours and Voter Registration)-

SOE Holland stated for the Presidential Preference Primary, Early Voting will be 8 days long; 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday. There is a possibility of 16 Early Voting sites for the presidential elections in 2012. Early Voting for the Downtown SOE office will move to the Main Library for the Primary and General election. Time of operation is still being evaluated.

Update re Voting Equipment-

SOE Holland stated the equipment companies up for bid have not been certified. The date the equipment must be certified by has been pushed to January 1, 2012. L. Goller

asked "How much different will the new equipment be compared to the older equipment?" SOE Holland stated he does not see a major difference, but the new equipment will have the latest software.

Update re new SOE Office Location-

SOE Holland explained to the panel the current situation with the warehouse/branch office location in Gateway. Lease expired October 2011 and is currently on a month to month lease until a new office location is determined. The landlord still needs to make over \$2 million dollars in improvements to the building and also owes about \$900 thousand in back taxes. There is a possibility of the property being foreclosed, which is a huge concern with this year being a presidential election year. The bank lender has the right to ask SOE to leave the property at any time. The Armory and the properties where Parkview Inn and State Farm used to be have been considered.

Actions Needed by EAP (Election of 2012 Officers)-

2012 election for EAP officers postponed for next meeting as it was hoped that there would be more Board members present. It was also learned that Joshua Cockrell submitted his resignation letter on March 14, 2011 which stated he was not reapplying for reappointment. Deborah Gonzalez has been appointed to the position he held.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.