Minutes Election Advisory Panel September 19, 2012

Members present: Leslie Goller, Chair; Joanie Prater, Kim Glasgal, Natalie Alden

Members absent: Scott Wiley, Kathy Carithers, Ed Gaston, Deborah Gonzalez, Dan O'Connor,

Visitor: Jerry Holland, Supervisor of Elections

The meeting was called to order @ 3:10 p.m.

Minutes: Minutes were not approved; there was not a quorum.

Old business:

Website Recommendations-

No website recommendations, Natalie Alden impressed with our website and easy navigation.

Litigation-

Jerry Holland spoke about the five county resolution. The lawsuit was resolved so that all five pre-clearance counties will conform to 12 hr days and 8 days of early voting. The Department of Justice pre-cleared the House Bill 1355 all items have been pre-cleared or mediated. The number of hours and days will be consistent throughout the state.

Preliminary injunction Corrine Brown filed a law suit and is asking that early voting go back to fourteen days of early voting, based on the premise that it disenfranchises African Americans by not having the second Sunday of early voting. Judge will rule in timely manner by the end of week.

Natalie Alden made the point that this business of not having enough early voting days is preposterous in that some states do not even have early voting at all. It also labels minorities as being incapable of seeing that there are 8 days of early voting one weekend and an extra Saturday, 12-hour days at 17 different locations for each one of those days to vote early. If you vote early, you will go during one of those days. There is plenty of opportunity to early vote given all the options. If you cannot make one of those early voting days there is also Election Day voting as well as absentee voting available.

Voter List Maintenance Status-

Jerry Holland said we have not received anything in Duval County. No list maintenance has been done on non U.S. citizens. We will continue to remove felons and mentally incapacitated. We are still in the same place as we were before.

Voter Registrations-

Leslie Goller inquired as to the number of Duval voter registrations this year as opposed to 2008. Jerry Holland said that registration has increased from the 2008 election. Third party registration increased in participation as well. My staff is working overtime and Saturday's to keep up with new registrations.

Actions taken by EAP members -

Leslie Goller worked with Jerry to make changes on the ballot. Made changes by adding headings for the Judges and changed the District Court of Appeals to judges instead of justices.

Natalie Alden is having the We Vote Rally tomorrow from 6-8 at the City Hall.

Warehouse & Gateway Property-

Jerry Holland said that the city council passed a resolution to do an appraisal on the downtown property. General Counsel is overseeing that. The administration is working on it but nothing will be done before the election. We are waiting for numbers on a new lease with the Gateway property and they have temporarily fixed the air-conditioning, still many problems with building.

New Business:

2012 Primary Election-

Jerry Holland stated that we are in the process of recertifying our equipment so that the process time is faster. It can take up to 17 seconds to read a single ballot in the old way that it was certified. After recertifying the equipment it will take 7 ½ seconds to read a ballot. From an equipment standpoint, the manufacturer is sending us 75 more voting machines so that we can have two at every precinct. We will have three machines for early voting sites. We also purchased 2 more of the high-speed 850 machines for the absentee voting. We are gearing up so that we make sure we have enough machines to handle should we have a recount.

One precinct is moving; that is the Moose Lodge on Southside Blvd. because voters complained of the strong smoke smell in the building. We split that precinct so that it went into two other precincts, now we have 197 precincts. The dual precinct is 1406.

Jerry Holland said that the ballot is a four-page ballot and it takes 17 minutes to read. He is encouraging everyone to read their sample ballot and be familiar with it before coming to the polls to vote. Leslie Goller pointed to the League of Women Voters for more information on the amendments and Jerry Holland suggested the collinscenter.org website for more information regarding the proposed amendments.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 17th @ 3:00 PM

Adjournment: 4:05 PM