



**Board of Supervisors of Elections
Minutes
WebEx Board Meeting
May 20, 2021 6:00 PM**

Boardmembers Present: Robert Kurnick, Danniell Belay, Stephen H. Fisher, Will Simon

Boardmember Absent: Sofya Orlosky

Staff: Assistant City Attorney Nicholas Dumais, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Sara Taylor-Ferrell, Election Specialist Judy Penny

Convene and Welcome

Chair Kurnick convened the meeting via WebEx at 6:03.

Chair Kurnick advised the Board that they would be going into a closed session at this end of the meeting to receive legal advice.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of April 22, 2021 as submitted.

Moved by Boardmember Simon, seconded by Boardmember Belay, and approved by vote of 3-0 with Boardmember Fisher abstaining.

Questions to the BSE

No questions to the Board.

Friends of Kuan Lee

Chair Kurnick recommended this matter be moved to the end of the meeting based on the need for legal advice.

Proposed Amendments to Chapter 8 of the City Code

The Board reviewed the proposed recommendation to the City Charter as follows:

1. Article III, Section 3 – Nominations - changing the deadline for submitting nominating petitions from 60 to 90 days prior to Election Day, to allow additional time to complete the candidate certification process and allow additional time for campaigning.

Proposed recommendations to the Rockville City Code:

1. Section 8-1 – Definitions - amend the definition of campaign materials to include websites, emails, text messages, and other electronic communications.
2. Section 8-6 – Voter Registration. Delete sentence permitting persons not registered with the County to register separately with the City.
3. Section 8-45 – Electioneering. Add language prohibiting electioneering within 50 feet of drop box.
4. Section 8-78 – Contributions and Expenses. – Delete the sentence in Section 8-78(d) imposing an unconstitutional aggregate contribution limit of \$2,000.
5. Section 8-81 – Election Reports. Amend to require electronic filing of all Campaign Finance Reports.
6. Section 8-101 – Prohibited Practices. Amend the language in Subsection (7) to require clear and conspicuous disclaimers on campaign literature similar to that required by federal law.

Motion: Ask City attorney’s office to draft language implementing the BSE proposed amendments and come back to the BSE with the proposed language for approval.

Moved by Boardmember Fisher, seconded by Boardmember Belay, and approved unanimously.

Guest Speaker

Dr. Stephen Weiner presented an overview of the canvassing process. He described the process for batching and counting ballots and discussed issues that arise during the canvassing process, including legibility of ballots, determining voter intent, documenting the chain of custody, and maintaining security during an election.

Interviews by Charter Review Commission

Chair Kurnick informed the Board that the Charter Review Commission is preparing a list of individuals they would like to interview and that the list included each current member of the BSE. He asked whether the Board would prefer to be interviewed, and answer questions, individually or collectively as a body?

Motion: Chair Kurnick will inform the Charter Review Commission that the Board will answer any questions collectively as a body, and not individually.

Moved by Boardmember Fisher, seconded by Boardmember Belay, and approved unanimously.

BSE 2021 Goal Assignments

No discussion.

Old/New Business

There was no old or new business for this evening's meeting.

Future Meeting

Thursday, June 17, 2021 – BSE Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Motion: to adjourn.

Moved by Boardmember Fisher, seconded by Boardmember Belay and approved unanimously.