Electoral Board Meeting Minutes

**July 29, 2020**

The Electoral board of Arlington County met at 3:00pm on Wednesday July 29, 2020 virtually due to the ongoing pandemic. The meeting was called to order by Charlene Bickford, Chairman, and present were Matthew Weinstein, Vice Chairman; W. Scott McGeary, Secretary, Gretchen Reinemeyer, Director of Elections, and various members of the public.

The first order of business was a recap of the summer’s elections. Gretchen Reinemeyer provided highlights from this summer’s elections. See the attachment for a complete list of noteworthy accomplishments.

The next item Ms. Reinemeyer provided an overview of new election laws that took effect July 1, 2020. See the attachment for a complete list of new laws.

The next order of business was a discussion on locations for early voting, or in person no excuse absentee voting, for the November 3, 2020. Ms. Reinemeyer explained that the County Board would need to adopt these locations by County Ordinance similar to how polling places are established. The Office of Voter Registration & Elections recommendations are below.

**Main Location:** Open 9/18 – 10/31 M-F 8am-5pm, Additional Hours: 3 Saturdays 9am-5pm and M-F 8am-7pm last 2 weeks. [**Legal Requirements:** Early Voting must take place at the location on the General Registrar’s Office 45 days before every election during regular business hours and be open for 8 hours 2 Saturdays before the election.]

1. Bozeman Government Center, 2100 Clarendon Blvd, Cherry & Dogwood

**Satellite Locations:** Open 10/17 – 10/31. M-F 2pm-7pm, Sat 9am – 5pm. [**Legal Requirements:** Additional locations must be adopted by the Local Governing Body by ordinance and be advertised for 2 weeks.]

1. Madison Community Center, 3829 N Stafford Street, Room TBD
2. Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 16th St S, Room TBD
3. Aurora Hills Senior Center, 735 18th St S
4. Langston Brown Community Center, 2121 N Culpeper St **OR** Lubber Run Community Center, 200 N Columbus St

Ms. Reinemeyer then discussed their voter education plans for the upcoming election. The Office plans to mail a voter guide to all registered voters and work with the County’s communications department on a comprehensive communications plan.

The final item on the agenda was a discussion on renting voting equipment. The Arlington Democrats asked the Electoral Board to allow renting of voting equipment for party nominating events. A discussion was had as the specific requirements being requested, specifically use of ranked-choice voting. The Office of Voter Registration & Elections does not currently maintain a software license to run an election that uses ranked choice voting as a selection method. The Electoral Board asked Ms. Reinemeyer to draft a rental policy and gather more information on costs associated with ranked-choice voting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:06pm.

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Charlene N. Bickford, Chairman

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David A. Bell, Vice Chairman

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W. Scott McGeary, Secretary