Electoral Board Meeting Minutes

**March 25, 2021**

The Electoral Board of Arlington County met at 5:00 p.m. on March 25, 2021 virtually due to the ongoing pandemic. The meeting was called to order by Matthew Weinstein, Chairman, and present were Scott McGeary, Secretary, Kimberly Phillip, Vice Chairman, Gretchen Reinemeyer, Director of Elections, and Eric Olsen, Deputy Director.

Matthew Weinstein moved that the minutes from the previous meetings be adopted. Scott seconded, and the meetings were approved without objection.

Gretchen Reinemeyer provided a summary of legislation passed during the 2021 General Assembly session and bills passed in previous sessions with an effective date of July 1, 2021. A complete list of bills and their status as of this meeting can be found at the bottom of these minutes. Gretchen highlighted two bills - HB 1888 and SB 1395. She emphasized that many of the provisions around mail ballots such as the ability to contact a voter if their mail ballot is missing information that might lead to rejection and allowing ballots to be returned via a drop box were temporary for the 2020 November General Election. The Office is waiting on the Governor to approve the budget that would allow them for the June 8, 2021 Democratic Primary. Until then, drop boxes will not be permitted for the June election.

Gretchen moved on to discuss the upcoming election calendar. Early voting begins on April 23, 2021. Ballots will also be mailed on April 23, 2021. The Office will begin pre-processing mail ballots on May 26, 2021. Early voting satellite offices will be open starting May 29, 2021. The provisional ballot meeting will be held on June 9, 2021 and the canvass will conclude on June 12, 2021.

The Electoral Board had a discussion around days and hours for the early voting locations for the June 8, 2021 Democratic Primary. Matt Weinstein moved to approve early voting at Courthouse starting Friday, April 23rd for the hours of 8 am-5 pm, Monday through Friday and 8 am-7 pm on Tuesday, June 1st and Thursday, June 3rd and early voting at the Madison and Walter Reed satellite locations on Saturday May 29 and Saturday June 5th from the hours of 9 am to 5 pm and Tuesday June 1st and Thursday June 3rd from the hours of 2 pm to 7 pm. These day and times are subject to change upon the vote of the Electoral Board.

Kimberly Phillips next presented a question that she received from the community wishing to understand the process needed to change the name of a precinct. Gretchen presented a brief history on how precincts are named. Precincts have been named after their neighborhood, street, or facility where they are located. She then explained the process to change a precincts name. The County Board must approve a request to advertise and then vote on the change. Since it is a labor-intensive process, Gretchen noted that changes are only made when necessary, such as a location no longer being available. The Board discussed the change from the community briefly and will consider changing the name of precinct 030 Glebe in the future.

The final item on the agenda was a discussion of the outreach plan. Matt and Kim provided information for a documentary series the Office is hoping to complete through a partnership with Arlington Independent Media.

There being no additional business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

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Matthew Weinstein, Chairman

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Kimberly Phillip, Vice Chairman

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W. Scott McGeary, Secretary























