

Takoma Park's board of elections met on 10/16/2017 at the Takoma Park Community Center/Sam Abbott Citizens' Center in Takoma Park, Maryland. Present: Brian Ernst (board chair); Arthur David Olson (board vice chair); Beatriz York (board member, telephonically); Greg Lebel (board member); Lori Grazio (board member); Jessie Carpenter (city clerk); Curtis Antonucci; Jennifer Domagal-Goldman.

Brian called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

We amended approved the agenda.

We approved the minutes of our 10/2/2017 meeting.

We reviewed the election workers training guide. Brian noted suggested changes and undertook to finalize the manual; Brian offered to consider other suggested edits sent by 10/19/2017.

We reviewed a tally sheet prepared by Brian for election night and suggested changes. Brian undertook to finalize the tally sheet, electronically sending the result to board members.

Greg asked what material in the guide should be emphasized during training; Brian is consulting with Jessie on preparing a training agenda, which is to include hands-on exercises to be carried out.

We reviewed absentee ballot procedure. (Lori departed during the review.)

Jessie reported that efforts to arrange for a site visit to Washington Adventist University are continuing.

Jessie reported efforts to have the mayor swear or affirm election workers at our upcoming training sessions.

Jessie noted that the city's November newsletter will be coming out on the cusp of the election; it will have limited material on the election.

Jessie reported that there's a design for bus shelter signs, but no access to the shelters.

Arthur David reported that City TV is running slides covering dates, times, and sites for early voting and election day (in both English and Spanish).

Arthur David reported having submitted a script to Takoma Radio; neither Brian nor Arthur David has heard the announcement yet.

Jessie reported having found a source for "future voter" stickers; we agreed that it made sense to get 2,000 (to receive a volume discount), with those unused this year saved for 2020.

Jessie reported that "vote here" signs will be available.

We reviewed an election worker schedule prepared by Jessie.

Jessie reported that ballots (both absentee and in-person) have been finalized.

Election material appeared in the October newsletter; folks were pleased with it.

Brian reported on correspondence regarding a person working for another city and running for office in Takoma Park. Jessie's sense is that his is not a board of elections matter; if anything, it's an ethics commission matter. We agreed that this is not in our purview.

Jessie reported no news from the county on matters pertaining to the 2020 election.

We planned to meet next on 11/8/2017 and 12/11/2017 at 7:30 at the community center. There being no scheduled meeting before the election, we empowered the city clerk and election worker trainers to exclude workers based on their judgment and their evaluation of the training.

We adjourned at 9:09 for a trial ballot counting session.

Brian Ernst, presiding

Arthur David Olson, recording