

Albemarle County Electoral Board

Virtual and Regular Meeting

July 8, 2020

Location: Albemarle County Office Building, 5th Street

Attendance: Jim Heilman, Michael Rodemeyer, Peter Wurzer, Jake Washburne, Clarice Schermerhorn, and Lauren Eddy

Guest: Abigail Turner, Albemarle Democratic Party

The meeting began at 9:33 am.

Peter made the following statement: This meeting is being held pursuant to and in compliance with the Continuity of Government Ordinance adopted by the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors. The following individuals are physically and electronically present: *(Michael Rodemeyer, electronically; all others were physically present.)*

The agenda was unanimously adopted.

The minutes for June 24 and 26 were unanimously approved.

Polling Place changes. Discussion of two polling place changes was held. Michael moved that (1) the polling place for the Northside Precinct be permanently changed to Laurel Hill Baptist Church (which fronts on Airport Road), and (2) the polling place for the Branchlands Precinct be permanently changed to the Hillsdale Conference Center (on Hillsdale Drive). The motion passed unanimously.

June 23 Primary and November 3 General Election. Abigail raised several issues concerning the Primary past and Election in November:

- She brought to our attention what she considered questionable leadership at one polling place;
- She commented that both voters and election officers were very good at wearing face masks;
- She noted that the Governor is getting involved in recruitment of election officers for November;
- She noted that instructions for on-line absentee ballot are too confusing and complex for some voters.

Discussion ensued on these issues and other elements of these elections, particularly in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic:

- The issue of whether it will be feasible to create one or more early voting satellite sites for the fall was discussed. Jim asked Staff to produce a short "feasibility study" on this issue.
- Michael noted that he will review and resend his draft of simpler instructions on absentee balloting – as well as a video explaining the process.
- Abigail expressed desire for Staff to explore ways to allow absentee voters the opportunity to correct material mistakes made in completing the by-mail absentee balloting process.
- Michael and Jim noted that there were some inconsistencies among our officials in properly carrying out COVID-19 protection procedures.
- Michael queried whether we can recruit volunteers (those not officially sworn in as election officers) for November 3.
- Michael noted that our curbside voting processes at the polling places need some tweaking.

- Abigail suggested that we may need some help with early voting at the 5th Street County Office Building.
- Peter noted that we will need more sneeze guards for November 3. He asked that Staff try to obtain all Personal Protective Equipment (that will be needed in November) by August 1.
- Peter noted the plethora of signage that we are supplying to our Chief Election Officers and asked that signage be reviewed.

Other Matters:

- Per a suggestion by Abigail, Jim offered to write a letter to the editor of the Daily Progress thanking County voters for their almost universal willingness to wear face masks at the June 23 Primaries.
- Michael offered to write a letter of response to a voter who complained about her treatment at one of our polling places.

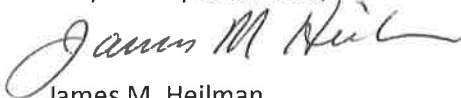
Executive Session. Michael moved the following: RESOLVED, that the Albemarle County Electoral Board go into a closed meeting, as authorized by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia, under Section 8, for the purpose of (i) discussion and consideration of the appointment, assignment and performance of one or more current and prospective Albemarle County election officers for the election cycle that begins on March 1, 2020, and (ii) discussion of the Annual General Registrar Performance Review and discussion of same with the General Registrar as provided by Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia. The motion passed unanimously. The Board went into Executive Session at 11:01 am.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:24 am. Michael moved the following: RESOLVED, that to the best knowledge of each member of this Board (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of Chapter 37 (Virginia Freedom of Information Act) of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which today's executive session was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim moved the appointment of 12 new Officers of Election for a term of one year beginning March 1, 2020. The motion passed unanimously. Their names shall be attached to these minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 am.

Respectfully submitted,



James M. Heilman
Secretary, Albemarle County Electoral Board

Election Officials: Appointed July 8, 2020

Home Precinct	LastName	First Name	Suf	Term	Term Expiry	Party	Either
101	CAREY	DAVID		1-yr	02/28/2021	Unknown	No
201	BIVENS	JULIAN		1-yr	02/28/2021	Unknown	No
	BIVINS	BEVERLY		1-yr	02/28/2021	Unknown	No
203	GADEN	JENNIFER		1-yr	02/28/2021	Unknown	No
307	BARBER	PETER		1-yr	02/28/2021	Ind	No
	WASHBURNE	GEORGE		1-yr	02/28/2021	Ind	No
402	PUTNAM	CHRISTINE		1-yr	02/28/2021	Democratic	No
405	CALDWELL	KATHLEEN		1-yr	02/28/2021	Unknown	No
	HAYS	R. ANN		1-yr	02/28/2021	Ind	No
504	MCMULLAN	CLAIRE		1-yr	02/28/2021	Unknown	No
506	WETHERBY	CATHERINE		1-yr	02/28/2021	Unknown	No
606	FARSETTA	MARY		1-yr	02/28/2021	Unknown	No