BOARD for REGISTRATION of VOTERS

City of Burlington

City Hall, Room 20, 149 Church Street, Burlington, VT 05401 **Voice (802) 865-7137**
Fax (802) 865-7014
Deaf/Hard of Hearing 711

AGENDA
FOR MONTHLY MEETING OF
THE BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS
Tuesday, July 21, 2020
6 pm

Remote and Virtual via Zoom

Click Here to Access the Meeting via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84749004419
To Access the Meeting via Phone: Dial 1-301-715-8592, Webinar ID: 847 4900 4419

1. Agenda
2. Set Meeting Length
3. Minutes
4. Public Comments – members of the public wishing to speak will need to email abovee@burlingtonvt.gov. Your microphone will be enabled when it is your turn to speak.
5. Approval of Applications
6. Clerk's Report
7. Prepare for August Election
8. Discuss Lenore Broughton's Letter

*****Please let Amy or Lis know if you will not be attending the meeting*****

The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status, crime victim status or genetic information. The City is also committed to providing proper access to services, facilities, and employment opportunities. For accessibility information or alternative formats, please contact Human Resources Department at (802) 540-2505.

BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

MEET: Time 6:00 7/21/2020

Where: Remote and Virtual via Zoom

Present: Elisabeth Mickenberg, Larry Granillo, Jim Rader, Kate Baldwin, Lenore Broughton, Martha Gile, Ariana Cano

Absent: Charles Cashatt, Annie Schneider, Weiwei Wang, Helen Rock, Michelle Lefkowitz

Also Present: Amy Bovee, Assistant City Clerk

Meeting called to order by Chair Lis

Agenda: Kate Baldwin made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Martha Gile. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Length: The meeting length was set for 1 hour.

Minutes: Jim Rader made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Ariana Cano. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: N/A

Clerk's Report/Prepare for August Election: Amy Bovee reported that early voting numbers have remained strong and that over 8,000 ballots had been sent out, which is approaching the total number of people who voted in the last primary. She also shared that the State had provided translated sample ballots for use at the polls.

Lis Mickenberg assigned members to polling places. Assignments were as follows: Ward 1 – Lenore Broughton, Ward 2 – Helen Rock, Ward 3 – Michelle Lefkowitz, Ward 4 – Larry Granillo, Ward 5 – Annie Schneider, Ward 6 – Weiwei Wang, Ward 7 – Ariana Cano, Ward 8 – Charles Cashatt

Lenore Broughton's Letter

Lenore Broughton had distributed a letter to the Board related to concerns about voter fraud with mail in ballots. Lis Mickenberg shared her belief that detection of voter fraud is outside of the Board's prevue. Jim Rader stated that he agrees that election security and proper training for election officials is extremely important. Using a mail in ballot system is not ideal, but is likely the best solution to deal with voting in a pandemic. He noted that he does not believe the data shows that substantial voter fraud exists, but it's possible that it could become a problem in the future. He also noted that voter suppression is a problem. Lenore Broughton stated that there is no good system in place to detect voter fraud. She noted that mail in ballots have issues with ballots being rejected. She expressed a desire for the Board to have more involvement in maintenance of the checklist. Larry Granillo stated that it is important to be aware of imperfections in the checklist. When those imperfections are understood, you can then develop processes to maintain a cleaner list. Lenore Brouhgton suggested that the Board

request that the State assist in helping to keep a cleaner checklist and develop methods of fraud detection. She asked if anyone investigates whether people who same day register have voted elsewhere. Amy Bovee stated that in her time as Assistant City Clerk there was one instance of a student who had voted in Burlington and had also turned in an absentee ballot in her home town. The system flagged it and she reported the issue to the Secretary of State's Office and the Attorney General. Larry Granillo suggested that the Board should see how things work this year, and then ask the State for a debrief to see what had worked well and what had not. Board members agreed with this approach.

On a motion by Jim Rader, seconded by Lenore Broughton, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Amy Bovee, Assistant City Clerk