



BOARD for REGISTRATION of VOTERS

City of Burlington

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AGENDA
FOR MONTHLY MEETING OF
THE BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS
Tuesday, June 6, 2023; 6 pm

In Person – Community Room at the Police Department

Or access the meeting remotely via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/9462403779>

Meeting ID: 946 240 3779

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,9462403779# US (Chicago)

+16469313860,,9462403779# US

1. Agenda
2. Set Meeting Length
3. Minutes
4. Public Comments
5. Clerk's Report
6. Approval of Applications
7. Application Signing Schedule
8. Board Report to City Council
9. Biennial Checklist Review Discussion
10. New Business

*****Please let Tenzin or Grace know if you will not be attending the meeting*****

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BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

MEET: Time 6:00p 06/06/2023

Where: Community Room at the Police Department and remotely via Zoom

Present: Grace Grundhauser, Elisabeth Mickenberg, Annie Schneider, Larry Granillo, Alison Harte, Michelle Lefkowitz, Lauren Ebersol

Absent: Helen Rock, Kate Baldwin, Thea Knight, Mike McGarghan, Karen Rowell

Also Present: Sarah Montgomery (Assistant City Clerk), Tenzin Chokden (Associate City Clerk)

Meeting called to order by Chair Grace Grundhauser at 6:01pm

Agenda: Michelle Lefkowitz made the motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Elisabeth Mickenberg. Approved unanimously.

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

Previous Meeting Minutes:

Michelle Lefkowitz made the motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Lauren Ebersol. The minutes were passed unanimously.

Public Comments:

No members from the public attended.

Clerk's Report:

Sarah Montgomery reported that there are 30,961 registered voters and 8,388 of those voters are challenged.

For the election related charter changes: Redistricting Ward Boundaries, Siting of Polling Places, and Ranked Choice Voting have all passed through legislation. The legal resident voting was vetoed by the Governor but it is expected to go into veto override session on June 20th.

Larry Granillo asked: How does veto override works?

Sarah Montgomery replied: She is not exactly sure of the process, but it needs to be voted through by a certain threshold of votes in the statehouse.

Grace Grundhauser asked if we can discuss vacancies and applications to apply for the board.

Sarah Montgomery replied that application deadline has closed. Larry Granillo and Kate Baldwin decided not to reapply for new terms. One application has been received for the two open positions. Board appointments will be made on June 20th. Larry Granillo explained he expects to be much busier in the

fall and won't have time to attend the meetings, but he will still help out during elections (but probably not 12 hour days).

Alison Harte asked if the board is looking for someone in specific wards to fill in these positions. Elisabeth Mickenberg replied it has never been done it by wards and anyone can apply for these positions.

Approval of Applications: Sarah Montgomery reported:

May – New Registrations: 135; Transferred out of Town: 122; Purged: 4,704; Challenged: 17.

Larry Granillo asked: What's the reason for such a big purge?

Sarah Montgomery replied: Biennial checklist review was done at the last meeting and the board approved to purge challenged voters who hadn't voted in past two general elections. In addition to this large purge, around 100 voters were removed based on their responses to challenge letters.

Michelle Lefkowitz made a motion to accept the numbers as presented, seconded by Larry Granillo. The motion passed unanimously.

Application Signing Schedule:

Grace Grundhauser (06/15), Larry Granillo (06/22), Alison Harte (06/29), Annie Schneider (07/06), Alison Harte (07/13), Grace Grundhauser (07/20), Lauren Ebersol (07/27)

Board Reports to City Council:

Grace Grundhauser asked if there is any feedback from the board in regards to Board Reports to City Council that was presented at the last meeting.

Elisabeth Mickenberg stated the report needs to be signed by all members of the board.

Grace Grundhauser stated that people will have the option to sign it in person at City Hall or electronically if they are unable to do so in person. **The board will have until the end of June to sign the reports.**

Michelle Lefkowitz made the motion to accept the report as written, seconded by Annie Schneider. The motion passed unanimously.

Biennial Checklist Review Discussion:

Sarah Montgomery described the process on how the board can narrow down the checklist, so they can determine who is eligible to vote and challenge voters if they are unable to determine eligibility. They can use official and unofficial public records and documents. Sarah Montgomery suggested that we can narrow the checklist by starting with the total active voters, then remove voters who had voted in the past four years from consideration for challenging. Once we have that narrowed list of voters to review,

other sources can be used, such as the city's property database, dog license database, and DMV database to try to confirm if voters on the list of remaining voters are still eligible to vote in Burlington.

Grace Grundhauser added that Sarah Montgomery heard from Ward 7 clerk Jeff Comstock, and he made a suggestion that the ward clerks and inspectors of election could help with this checklist review process. The board could give each ward clerk the list of people in their ward who the board has not confirmed whether they are eligible or not and then the clerks could share the list with inspectors of election. The election officials could provide feedback if there was anyone on the list that should not be challenged, but should instead remain active on the checklist. Annie Schneider asked why their records would be different than the records that are already available to the board. Sarah Montgomery replied that they might have public knowledge about the residents in their ward that the board doesn't have. Elisabeth Mickenberg and Lauren Ebersol expressed concerns about that method.

Sarah Montgomery added the board can review the whole checklist if they want to but the steps discussed are to help narrow down the checklist for the board so they can more closely review the list of voters who may no longer be eligible to vote.

Elisabeth Mickenberg asked: What's the timeframe for doing this? Sarah Montgomery replied: It needs to be done September 15, 2023 and the letter of certification needs to be submitted to the Secretary of State by September 20, 2023.

Grace Grundhauser outlined the process that will happen with the checklist review. The clerk's office will:

1. Review death notices, and purge those voters from the checklist.
2. Generate full checklist of active voters.
3. Using voter participation records, filter out voters who have voted in the past four years.
4. Using the city's property database, filter out voters who own the property where they are registered to vote.
5. Using the city's dog registration database, filter out voters who have registered dogs at the address where they are registered to vote.
6. Using the DMV database, filter out voters who have VT ID's that list the address where they are registered to vote.

Sarah Montgomery said: She will send out the list within the next couple of weeks for the board to review. She will include the different iterations of the list as voters are filtered out, so the board can clearly see the process and can review the full checklist if they would like to. Grace Grundhauser asked if Sarah Montgomery could send two separate emails or make it very clear which one is informational and which one the board should review.

Elisabeth Mickenberg made to motion to accept the process of reviewing the checklist, seconded by Michelle Lefkowitz. The motion passed unanimously.

The board had discussion on whether they should meet on July 11th.

Annie Schneider made the motion to accept to meet in July, seconded by Lauren Ebersol. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Picnic planning for celebration of board members who are leaving – maybe after the July meeting.

On a motion by Elisabeth Mickenberg, seconded Larry Granillo, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted By: Tenzin Chokden, Associate City Clerk