

Election Commission

Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2013

Present: Marjorie Butler, Nancy Levine, John McDermott

Absent: Ken Hartford

Also Present: City Clerk David Olson

Certification of the April 30 Primary Elections

David Olson presented the official results of the April 30th Primary Election to the Commission members. He noted that there were a few additions to the unofficial results that were recorded and posted on election night. There were seven absentee ballots that were added to the totals. Six of those seven were overseas absentee ballots and one was a local absentee ballot delivered to the Elections Office in City Hall before the close of the polls but too late to get it to the poll. There were ten blank ballots, four hand-count ballots and one provisional ballot that were added to the totals. These additions did not change the results as reported on Election night.

Minutes

The minutes from the April 2nd and April 25th meetings were reviewed. There were no changes and the minutes were approved unanimously

Report of the Programs & Services Committee meeting

Marjorie Butler and David Olson attended the Programs & Services Committee meeting where the Public Hearing on the Consolidation of the Elections Office with the City Clerk's Office was held. The hearing opened and no one from the public spoke. The Aldermen did not have any questions having asked them at previous meetings. The Committee closed the hearing and approved the reorganization. The committee also took up the consolidated budget for FY14. The budget discussion went quickly and smoothly, and the budget was approved in committee.

Report on the April 30 Primary

Marjorie Butler reported that she had spent time during the day observing the office and poll operations on April 30th. She reported that she did not see any problems and felt that things had gone smoothly. David reported that there was an issue with one of the Accu-vote machines in the morning, but it was easily resolved by resetting the machine before ballots were sent through. He also noted that during the day, two of our older poll workers ended up going to the hospital. Both are fine and there was no disruption in voting.

Marjorie Butler noted that in visiting polling locations, there were several schools where the intent of separating the voters from the children was not successfully accomplished, particularly the Countryside and the Mason-Rice Schools. Both of these locations need to be reviewed. It was also noted that the Memorial-Spaulling School had children and teachers walking through the polling location to get to some offices. David will review these locations with the School Department's Chief of Operations, Michael Cronin.

Plans for the June 25th Election

David Olson reported that the absentee ballots for the Special Senate Election would arrive next week and arrangements for the printing of the municipal ballots were in the works. Additional instructions are being drafted to be sent out with the absentee ballots to help explain the dual election and the two ballots, as well as how those ballots must be returned. Everything will be color coded for the two elections to help make it as easy as possible for voters.

The Elections webpage

Commissioners asked if the Elections webpage would be kept separately. David reported that the Elections webpage would be maintained and a link to the page would be added to the City Clerk's webpage to help guide people to elections information.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.