

STAUNTON ELECTORAL BOARD

P.O. Box 58

Staunton, Virginia 24402

(540) 332-3840

Anne T. Fitzgerald
Secretary
(540) 255-5398

BOARD MEMBERS
Glenn A. Graves, Chairman
Thomas W. Long, V. Chairman

April 8, 2020

Electoral Board Meeting

Members Present:

Glenn Graves, Chair

Tom Long, Vice Chair

Anne Fitzgerald, Secretary

Guests Present:

Molly Goldsmith, Registrar

Glenn Graves called the meeting to order at 10 am. Anne Fitzgerald called the roll; all members present. Mr. Graves asked Mr. Long to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Long made the motion to approve the minutes from the March 12th. Mr. Graves seconded. Motion carried.

New Business:

Report from Registrar

Update on Absentee Balloting

- Molly Goldsmith explained the process to request a ballot and send it back in.
- Mr. Long explained how the ballot is processed for vote.
- 1,290 (8%) ballots have been mailed. In November 2016 530 had been mailed out.
- 198 ballots have been returned.
- April 28 by 5pm is the deadline to receive the application to request a ballot.
-

Update on in-person balloting

- 29 in-person voters. This occurs on Johnson Street Parking Garage, floor 2B.
- Ms. Goldsmith uses a dedicated phone for this.

Update on marketing strategies

- Ms. Goldsmith will be advertising in the Staunton News Leader. She is putting together a marketing plan.
- Mr. Long sent a letter to the editor encouraging absentee balloting.
- Ms. Goldsmith has been in touch with the Retirement and Skilled Nursing communities.

Update on general activities

- Katherine Taylor has been hired to assist Molly in the Registrar's office, while our other two Assistant Registrars work from home. Hours will be based on need.

May Elections

Polling Precinct Availability

- A letter has been sent to the polling locations

Safety Protocols within the precincts

- Hand Sanitizer, gloves, masks, plexi-glass for check-in location and ballot officer, anti-bacterial soap, hand out I voted stickers or pens as the entry.
- Consider limiting the amount of people allowed in a polling location to the current recommendation of 10 (or ten plus Officers of Election).
- Consider marking 6 feet with cones
- Have voters exit out difference door than entrance.
- Have table stacked 2 deep
- Have the Officer of Election look at IDs without touching them

Outside poll worker protocols

- We are not going to monitor the outside poll workers. We will ask that they follow social distancing guidelines.

Inside poll observer protocols

- Send letter to candidates to find out who will have observers at the precincts, CAP, and vote canvass

CAP

- We will use the Caucus Room and City Council Chambers
- Safety protocols—gloves and masks, hand sanitizer (provided by Vita Distillery), Lysol spray
- We will need to have at least 2 teams of 3 each, along with the chief. We will evaluate the number on April 28th.

Vote Canvass/Provisional Ballot Meeting

- We will need to evaluate where we hold the meeting.
- We will ask candidates if they will be sending an observer
- Safety protocols—masks, gloves/hand sanitizer, space ourselves, Lysol
- Observer protocols—we will ask that they wear a mask and sit 6 feet away.

Election Day Staffing

- We may be short on staff. We are asking the voters be patient.

June Primary Elections

- June primary applications are available.
- April 24th is when voting begins.

Glenn Graves made a motion that the procedures/protocols we adopt for May be applied for June. Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Graves made a motion to adjourn at 10:50am. Mr. Long seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Taetzsch Fitzgerald
Secretary, Staunton Electoral Board