

Minutes of Greenbelt Board of Elections Meeting – March 25, 2021

Attendees: Bonita Anderson, Patricia Evans, Steven Gilbert, Toni Mathewson, Laurie Siegel

Members absent: Wanna Coker and Julie Gaebe

Guests: Mayor Colin Byrd, Bill Orleans, John Saunders, and Walter Moody

Called to Order: 5:39 p.m.

Agenda Approved: Motion made by Ms. Mathewson and seconded by Mr. Gilbert to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

Minutes Approved: No minutes recorded

Welcome New Board Member

Ms. Wanna Coker was unable to attend the Board meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Ms. Mathewson and seconded by Mr. Gilbert to approve the agenda. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Proposed Charter Amendment Resolution – Mail-in Voting

The Board reviewed the proposed legislation. Mr. Gilbert explained to the Board the charter amendment process. No action was taken.

Council Referral – Noncitizen Voting

Mr. Gilbert provided an overview that on March 2, 2021, Council made a referral to the Board of Elections and City Solicitor to provide input on allowing noncitizens residents in the City of Greenbelt the right to vote in City elections.

Mr. Orleans suggested modifying the title to “Resident Noncitizen Voting.”

Mayor Byrd explained his reasoning for bringing forth this referral.

Ms. Mathewson inquired about the number of noncitizen residents. Mayor Byrd indicated that the population may not be large, but there is no way to definitively knowing the number of noncitizen residents.

Laurie inquired about the working business owners who should be allowed to vote in Greenbelt elections. Steve explained that the process is for people whose domicile is in Greenbelt, which the business owner is more likely not.

No action was taken.

Council Referral – Special Elections for Vacant Council Seat

There was a discussion about the council referral. Mr. Gilbert will prepare a response memorandum to Council for further discussion at a council work session.

No action was taken.

Status update on Rank Choice Voting

Mr. Gilbert provided the Board with a status update regarding Rank Choice Voting. The Board will review and discuss further the memorandum at its next meeting.

Other Items:

- Next meeting will be held on April 8, 2021, at 5:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Submitted by

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk
Board Staff Liaison