

MEETING of the Greenbelt Board of Elections held Thursday, September 17, 2020.

Patricia Evans, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Board members present were Patricia Evans, Steven Gilbert, Julie Gaebe, and Laurie Siegel.

Toni Mathewson was unable to attend.

Others present were City Clerk Bonita Anderson.

Minutes of Prior Meeting: The Board reviewed the March 10, 2020, meeting minutes. It was moved by Ms. Siegel and seconded by Mr. Gilbert to approve the minutes. The motion passed 4-0-1.

Discussion concerning Council referral on vote by mail: The Board reviewed the draft code amendments and held a discussion regarding the correct terminology absentee versus vote by mail. The Board discussed the similarities in the process of requesting an absentee ballot and mail-in voting. Mr. Gilbert noted that the City would want a blended approach to include both the option to vote by mail or in-person. The Board requests that Ms. Anderson invites the City of New Carrollton Board of Elections to the next Board meeting for a brief discussion on the process, procedures, and voter turnout with their recent election.

Request regarding early contributions for the 2021 City Election: Ms. Anderson received an email inquiry in late June from Ric Gordon, a Greenbelt resident seeking to run for City Council in November 2021 and desires to raise funds for his campaign. Ms. Anderson noted that a response was sent to Mr. Gordon to open a bank account for the 2021 City Elections. It was also noted that he appoints a Treasurer and maintain records of all contributions and expenditures with receipts to be reported on his interim Candidate Campaign Financial Report in November 2021.

Request regarding Rank Choice Voting (RCV) and None of the Above (NOTA) for City Elections: Ms. Anderson received a letter dated August 31, 2020 from Gary Krueger, a Greenbelt resident, requesting changes to the ballot and voting process in the City elections. The Board briefly discussed Mr. Krueger's request and noted that the Board was exploring voting alternatives in 2002. There was a reference to an article in the Greenbelt News Review October 17, 2002 issue sent to the Board by email. The Board requests that Mr. Krueger be invited to the next meeting for additional discussion.

Other Business: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2020, at 5:30 pm, virtually.

Adjournment: Ms. Siegel moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Gaebe seconded. The motion passed 4-0-1.

Ms. Evans adjourned the meeting at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonita Anderson
City Clerk