

Worcester Board of Elections Meeting
January 10, 2011
Esther Howland Chamber, City Hall
Convened: 5:00 p.m. Adjourned: 6:00 p.m.

Call to order by Chair Dube

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call – Commissioners present:
Chairperson Mary Anne Dube
Commissioner Robert Winant
Commissioner Ana Rodriguez

Old Business:

Joshua Meduna provided an update on the street listings. The mailing is scheduled to go out on January 14. There are 64,277 pieces to be mailed out to all households in the city. The citizens can respond either by mail, online, or by placing the responses in a drop off box set up at the library. The cost for the first mailing is \$21,470.24. A discussion was initiated by one of the attendees who had been a poll watcher on follow up mailings to ensure that voter lists would be properly updated. Mr. Meduna described the follow up procedure and how it will be handled.

As a result of the meeting on November 22, 2010, a letter was sent to Secretary of State Galvin's Office requesting clarification on issues raised in the affidavit provided by several poll watchers and soliciting advice on the issues. A response was received from the Secretary of State and the response was brought up for discussion. The primary focus of the discussion concerned the actions of a group known as "Neighbor to Neighbor" and whether their actions were in violation of the ordinances and whether members of the group or other organizations with a particular political agenda should be allowed into a polling place with clothing or other paraphernalia displaying the organization's logo. The communication from the Secretary of State indicated this was a matter for the City to decide. A motion was made to ask the City Solicitor to provide a ruling on this and the motion was approved by the Board.

One of the attendees noted that a police report had been filed over one of the incidents and an inquiry was made as to what action the Board would take on this. After some discussion, it was determined that this is a legal matter that is outside the jurisdiction of the Board and the Police would have to follow up with either the District Attorney or the Attorney General to pursue a criminal complaint.

It was also noted that the poll workers should receive additional training in regard to voter assistance. Specifically, if someone is assisting a voter the poll workers

should explicitly ask the voter if that person is the one the voter wants to assist them.

New Business:

There was no new business proposed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.