

Minutes of Worcester Board of Election Commissioners meeting July 9, 2012

Call to order by Chair Mohieldin at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Commissioners present:

Chairperson Diane Mohieldin
Commissioner Mary Anne Dube
Commissioner John Goggins
Commissioner David LaPierre
Commissioner Robert Winant

Commissioners absent:

Old Business:

The only order of old business was a followup discussion regarding the changes suggested to the training manual. Mr. Meduna has added several pictures to accompany the text regarding the starting and ending procedures for elections and had distributed samples to the Board members prior to the meeting. The Board members expressed general agreement that the changes would be very helpful to both the workers at the polling locations and to those manning the phones at the Election Commission office, as many questions received at both the beginning and end of the election day dealt with how to properly set up and break down the machines.

Mr. Meduna noted that the acceptance of the minutes from the June 11, 2012 meeting had been inadvertently left off the agenda. Chair Mohieldin requested a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Dube entered a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner LaPierre seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

New Business:

The only order of new business was a discussion on the upcoming poll worker training.

There was a query from the audience regarding the procedures for write-ins and spoiled ballots. Chair Mohieldin noted the write in section had been enhanced. Commissioner LaPierre inquired what the procedure was regarding spoiled ballots. Mr. Meduna briefly described the procedure and noted that the procedures for both

will be covered in the poll-worker training.

Commissioner Dube inquired if the Secretary of State's office had responded regarding the Board's request to enhance the information regarding voters rights and responsibilities. Mr. Meduna noted that they had not responded yet. Commissioner Winant inquired if they could be enhanced locally if the Secretary did not respond prior to the elections. Mr. Rushford noted that the Secretary of State would probably be opposed to such a measure as they prefer that polling locations be consistent throughout the state. The Election Commission Office will be following up with the Secretary of State for a resolution.

There was another query from the audience regarding the duties of the Clerks. Mr. Rushford noted that Clerks had clearly defined duties as described by statute and that they performed many other duties as well.

Chair Mohieldin inquired as to how the responsibilities of the workers are presented during the training. Mr. Rushford briefly described on how such information is provided in the training.

Commissioner LaPierre inquired on how the list of workers provided by the WRCC worked out. Mr. Rushford summarized the conversations he has had with Mr. Franco and how the assignments were being handled.

Chair Mohieldin inquired about budgeting for student workers. Mr. Rushford felt that budgeting may be in place and it will likely be possible that students will be able to work in the November election.

The next meeting will be held August 13, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Dube made a motion for adjournment and Commissioner LaPierre seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.