

## **Lynchburg Electoral Board Meeting**

**January 13, 2022**

**Meeting Held GLTC Conference Room  
800 Kemper Street**

### **Members present:**

David B. Neumeyer, Chair  
Carolyn Sherayko, Vice Chair,  
Betty Gibbs, Secretary

### **Others present:**

Christine Gibbons, General Registrar  
Kim Conner, Deputy Registrar  
Jeff Rosner, Lynchburg Democratic Party Authorized Representative  
Nikki Sanders, Lynchburg Democratic Party Chair  
Carl Hutcherson, Lynchburg NAACP  
Ricky Hailstock, Lynchburg NAACP  
Cheryl Glass-Cabell, Lynchburg Voters League  
Sarah Kalafian

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Neumeyer at 4:02 p.m.

### **Reorganization of Electoral Board**

David Neumeyer recognized and welcomed new electoral board member, Betty Gibbs. David Neumeyer asked for a motion to approve the following reorganization of the board: David Neumeyer, Chair, Carolyn Sherayko, Vice-Chair, and Betty Gibbs, Secretary. Motion made by, Carolyn Sherayko, Vice Chair. Seconded by Betty Gibbs, Secretary. Motion approved unanimously

### **Approval of the minutes and agenda**

Approval of January 13, 2022 Electoral Board Meeting Agenda adopted with amendments. Motion made by Betty Gibbs, Secretary. Seconded by Carolyn Sherayko, Vice Chair. Motion approved unanimously.

Approval of December 2, 2021 Electoral Board Minutes adopted with amendments. Motion made by Betty Gibbs, Secretary. Seconded by Carolyn Sherayko, Vice Chair. Motion approved unanimously.

## **Citizen Comments**

Jeff Rosner, Lynchburg City Democratic Party Committee member and Nikki Sanders, Lynchburg Democratic Party Chair both stated that they will send Democratic authorized representatives to the City of Lynchburg Election Officer in-person training in addition to the online state Democratic Training for authorized representatives.

Carl Hutcherson, Lynchburg NAACP requesting a copy of everything with newest electoral board member and specifically a copy of the FOIA made by newest board member if such as request was made. David Neumeyer asked Christine Gibbons, General Registrar if such a FOIA exists that was made by the newest board member. Christine Gibbons, General Registrar, confirmed that Betty Gibbs, did indeed request a FOIA 2 years ago with everything with her name that the Registrar's Office has on file.

## **Registrar's Report**

1. Christine Gibbons, General Registrar has set up a meeting with Lynchburg Police Department to discuss roles during election day incidents. The meeting will be held at the next electoral board meeting on February 3, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.
2. Christine Gibbons, General Registrar and Kim Conner Deputy Registrar will be attending a national certification training workshop and classes towards certification February 22 to February 27 in Atlanta, Georgia. Office coverage will continue with assistant registrar and intern registrars in the office.
3. Thursday January 20 at 10:00 Demtech will train staff and a few select Officers of Election on new electronic pollbooks. All electoral board members will be attendance for the training. No electoral board business will be conducted during this time only training. Christine Gibbons, General Registrar to follow up with ELECT if public allowed to attend during the training.

## **Old Business**

No old business to discuss

## **New Business:**

### **Discussion with Jamie Finney on items to include for Election Day Incidents Tabletop Exercise Training for Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs:**

Jamie Finney introduced himself, Chief of Protective Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency with U. S. Department of Homeland Security. His role is assisting with the security of elections and Virginia is one of his regions. At the request of Christine Gibbons, General Registrar, he was asked to help prepare, develop, plan, and implement table top exercises for Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs in de-escalation, provide situational awareness, behavioral threats, behavioral mental health, visit the 19 polling locations

to determine safety environment and threats to location. Resources are available for both parties if requested by one party he will present and share the information with both parties. His goal is to have a plan in place for training by mid-February.

**Update on Crosspoint Incident from November 2, 2021 election:**

At a previous meeting the electoral board approved the report of incidents that occurred at Crosspoint Church. One of the action items was to make a complaint to the Commonwealth of Attorney's office to see if any election laws were violated by authorized representatives. The City of Lynchburg's Commonwealth of Attorney, Bethany Harrison excused herself from the investigation due to a conflict of interest with her husband Eric Harrison being the Lynchburg Republican Chair. The investigation was sent to the Charlottesville Commonwealth of Attorney's office. Currently the office is still reviewing the report and will get back to David Neumeyer, Chair.

**Discussion of planning meeting for training curriculum of election officials and observers:**

Christine Gibbons, General Registrar has been tasked with creating a doodle poll to invite the party chairs, the NAACP, the Lynchburg Voters League, the Lynchburg League of Women's Voters to request interest in date and time to meet to begin the conversation on training curriculum of election officials and party observers. The electoral board welcomes input from the community.

**Discussion to plan and organize monthly electoral board meetings:**

David Neumeyer stated that the in the past year the first Thursday was utilized as the stated monthly electoral board meeting with the second Thursday as backup. The electoral board agreed that they will continue with this schedule. Kim Conner, Deputy Registrar to reserve the space at the GLTC Conference Room for all meetings to be held this calendar year.

**Redistricting update and next steps:**

Kent White, Community Manager for the City of Lynchburg and other members of the Redistricting Committee attended the City Council Work Session on January 11, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. The work session ran over and the redistricting presentation was taken off the scheduled. the City Council were erroneously informed that the schedule for Redistricting is August or 60 days out from the November election. Christine Gibbons, General Registrar, informed Kent White that there is a possibility of a June election, which changes the dates for Redistricting to be complete to April. Wynter Benda, City Manager, sent an email to City Council clarifying the dates for Redistricting. Carolyn Sherakyo, Vice Chair asked the general registrar to clarify with the City Attorney the question regarding the opening or not opening of the charter during the city council work session and to determine if there is any implication for the electoral board needs to follow up with the State Department of Elections.

### **Polling Location change approval for Ward 4 Precinct 1:**

David Neumeyer, Chair recommended to the board to vote in favor of moving Ward 4 Precinct 1 to St. Thomas More Catholic Church. St. Thomas More Catholic Church used to be the site of the precinct years ago and would be a good site as a polling precinct. The current location Crosspoint Church informed the Registrar's Office that they will be offering their space to a homeschool company and will no longer be available to serve as a polling site after the November 2021 election. Motion made by Betty Gibbs, Secretary. Seconded by Carolyn Sherayko, Vice Chair. Motion approved unanimously.

### **Discussion on recruitment of election officials and possible split shifts:**

January 25 is National Poll Worker Recruiter Day. David Neumeyer, Chair, would like a report on the plan for the office for recruiting new poll workers. Electoral Board members and General Registrars received an advisory from Help America Act with a list of resources for recruiting and retaining election officials. Kim Conner, Deputy Registrar shared with the board a plan and list of contacts for recruiting election officials in the following places in the city: Citizens Academy, Social Media, Substitute Teachers list, Churches, Civic Clubs. Two current election officials indicated to David Neumeyer, Chair, that the work day for election officials are long. David Neumeyer would like the board to consider split shifts for election officials. Christine Gibbons, General Registrar requested information from other general registrars across the state to see what other localities have done regarding split shifts. There are pros and cons to consider to full day and split shifts. Those who have implemented split shifts limit the number of split shifts in each precinct to allow for "veteran" election officials to semi-retire, spouses to split shifts, or for election officials to find someone to replace them for the second half of the day. The board agreed to a small pilot program allowing "veteran" election officials to semi-retire and limit the split shifts to one person per polling place or only one polling place.

### **Other Business:**

There being no further business, Mr. Neumeyer adjourned the meeting 5:45 pm

**Next meeting Date:** February 3, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Gibbs, Secretary  
Electoral Board  
City of Lynchburg