

APPROVED

MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE TO INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
FEBRUARY 27, 2018 – 5:30PM
CITY HALL – FOUNTAIN VIEW ROOM
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE ROAD, FARMINGTON HILLS MI

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Kendzierski at 5:33pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christoph, Ergas, Haynes, Hubbard, Kendzierski and Seelye

MEMBERS ABSENT: Pitchford

OTHERS PRESENT: Carly Hotchkiss, Deputy City Clerk/Staff Liaison and Richard Lerner, City Council Liaison

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by Hubbard, support by Kendzierski, to approve the agenda as amended, with the postponement of item 5.b. to the May 22, 2018 meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Christoph, support by Hubbard, to approve the minutes as published.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Appointment of Officers – Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

Chair Kendzierski read the duties of each officer from the by-laws.

Deputy Clerk Hotchkiss noted that the appointments would take hold next meeting and in regard to the responsibilities of Secretary, the Clerk would be responsible for preparing the meeting minutes.

Chair Kendzierski nominated Member Hubbard as Chair.

MOTION by Seelye, support by Kendzierski to appoint Member Hubbard as Chair.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Seelye, support by Hubbard, to appoint Member Christoph as Vice Chair.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Hubbard, support by Seeley to appoint Chair Kendzierski as Secretary.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Calendar Items – assignment of responsibilities

Chair Kendzierski stated that Clerk Smith has reached out to the schools on having Voter Registration Drives in March and/or April.

Deputy Clerk Hotchkiss noted that the Clerk has not heard back from the schools.

Councilmember Lerner mentioned that he had contacts for the schools and volunteered to touch base with them to setup dates for the Voter Registration Drives. He stated that he will provide a few dates to the Committee so that the members can sign up to participate according to their availability.

Member Christoph noted that the drives should take place on a regular full day of school.

Councilmember Lerner stated that he would confirm the dates provided by the schools were full days and noted that the drives may not take place until after spring break, which is the first week in April.

Member Ergas mentioned that she is available on Thursdays and Fridays.

Discussion was held on the May calendar of events and the responsibilities of the Chair. Member Hubbard noted that he would make sure the candidate debate letters were mailed out at the appropriate time.

Chair Kendzierski asked the Committee if her car will be used for the Founders Parade. Member Haynes responded stating that she should probably make arrangements for her car to be used.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Community voter registration drives/information distribution - brochures available through City Clerk's Office

Deputy Clerk Hotchkiss provided the Committee with the updated brochures and noted that the brochure can be emailed so that the members can send them electronically to their Homeowners Associations.

MY VOTE COUNTS:

Assign members to tape shows as follows:

May taping on new voting equipment - Member Christoph

June taping for August Election items - Chair Kendzierski

September taping for November Election items - Member Hubbard

Chair Kendzierski stated that members were needed to volunteer for the tapings.

Member Christoph volunteered for the May taping with the assistance of the City Clerk.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lauri Thornhill stated that she had reached out to Chair Kendzierski about participating on the Committee and that she has submitted her letter of interest.

MEMBER/LIAISON COMMENTS:

Member Christoph mentioned that a group of students, Engage 18, are working with Oakland County Clerk, Lisa Brown, to get students registered to vote, hold mock elections and candidate forums. She expressed concern that the students were not given the appropriate information regarding having to vote in person if registering to vote for the first time by mail. She stated that she told the students to reach out to Clerk Smith or their local clerk for that information.

Member Ergas noted that her neighborhood association is updating their welcome package and they would like to include the updated voter brochure.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Kendzierski adjourned the meeting at 6:14pm.

Minutes drafted by: Deputy City Clerk Hotchkiss