

**MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE TO INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
JANUARY 26, 2021 – 5:30PM**

CALLED TO ORDER BY: The meeting, being held electronically, was called to order by Chair Karen Bartos at 5:30pm.

During roll call members were asked to state the city and state from which they were attending the meeting remotely.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Bartos, Farmington Hills, Michigan
Rose Christoph, Farmington Hills, Michigan
Aimee Ergas, Farmington Hills, Michigan
Dennis Hubbard, Farmington Hills, Michigan
Susie Brown (Simonenko), Farmington Hills, Michigan
Lauri Thornhill, Farmington Hills, Michigan

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Lawler

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Pam Smith

Clerk Smith introduced a guest Chase Hurley, who has expressed interest in serving on the Committee so she was invited to attend a meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARTOS, CHRISTOPH, ERGAS, HUBBARD, BROWN AND THORNHILL

Nays: NONE

Absent: LAWLER

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Christoph, support by Brown, to approve the minutes from January 28, 2020 and August 25, 2020 as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARTOS, CHRISTOPH, ERGAS, HUBBARD, BROWN AND THORNHILL

Nays: NONE

Absent: LAWLER

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Election of Officers:

Discussion was held to gauge interest in the positions.

MOTION by Bartos, support by Christoph to elect the following officers:

Karen Bartos, Chair
Susie Brown, Vice Chair
Lauri Thornhill, Secretary

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARTOS, CHRISTOPH, ERGAS, HUBBARD, BROWN AND THORNHILL
Nays: NONE
Absent: LAWLER
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. 2021 Meeting Dates

Clerk Smith proposed meeting dates for 2021. She mentioned that this is a guideline and would not preclude the committee from calling a special meeting if needed.

MOTION by Hubbard, support by Thornhill, to approve the 2021 meeting dates as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARTOS, CHRISTOPH, ERGAS, HUBBARD, BROWN AND THORNHILL
Nays: NONE
Absent: LAWLER
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. 2021 Election Schedule

Clerk Smith noted that the only Election this year should be the November 2, 2021 City Election.

d. Founders Parade

It was noted that the committee typically participates in the Founders Parade in July in lieu of a meeting and this is a good opportunity for the committee to distribute brochures regarding upcoming Elections

e. Monthly Committee Bulletin

Clerk Smith noted that this was mentioned at the last meeting. Chair Bartos stated that the suggestion was to do a monthly bulletin with time sensitive information for that month as provided by the City Clerk's Office. Short bulletins and/or video clips.

Miss Hurley commented that particularly for the younger voters, short bulletins or video clips and humor are the best to catch their attention.

The committee discussed other goals for the year including:

- Monthly Bulletin
- High School Registration Drives
- Civic Project with the high schools – video, etc.
- Seeking grant funding for projects
- Having a presence at the HAWK community center and Costick Center during Election cycles

Members signed up to do the monthly bulletin as follows:

Feb – Dennis
March – Aimee
April – Lauri
May – Susie
June – Ruth
July – Karen

It was suggested that these are posted to social media and the website. Clerk Smith will make sure Election information is on the website and on the home page as timely information comes up. She also mentioned the eNews/List Serv is a great resource for people to access information going on in the city and all Election information is pushed out that way as well to those who are signed up.

f. Membership status

It was noted that Mitch Seelye had resigned from the committee and Chase Hurley was attending the meeting as a potential new member.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No further public comments

MEMBER/LIAISON COMMENTS: No further member comments

ADJOURNMENT:

MOITON by Hubbard, supported by Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 6:35pm.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARTOS, CHRISTOPH, ERGAS, HUBBARD, BROWN AND THORNHILL
Nays: NONE
Absent: LAWLER
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ps