

**MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE TO INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
AUGUST 23, 2022 – 5:30PM
CITY HALL – FOUNTAIN VIEW ROOM
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE ROAD, FARMINGTON HILLS MI**

CALLED TO ORDER BY: The meeting was called to order by Chair Marc Thomas at 5:31pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Bartos
Susie Brown
Aimee Ergas
Dennis Hubbard
Marc Thomas
Lauri Thornhill

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rose Christoph
Dawn Raymond
Ashley Riley
Marjorie Whittemore

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Pam Smith

Members of the public were acknowledged during the meeting – Leann Bigos and Robert Levine

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by Hubbard, support by Brown, to approve the agenda as published

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Hubbard, support by Ergas, to approve the minutes from May 24, 2022 as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Founders Festival Parade Follow-up

Clerk Smith noted that over 400 of the committee brochures outlining election information were distributed.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Post-Election Update

Clerk Smith provided voter statistics and turn-out information for the August 2, 2022 Election. Members requested information for not only absentees returned but how many issued and Clerk Smith said she would provide that information to them following the meeting as she did not have those stats with her. Members also inquired if reports were able to be printed by age groups. Clerk Smith responded that they could report voting by age group but only within the pre-determined ranges already in the state voting system.

Clerk Smith also mentioned that the new Miss Oakland County was present at the City Council meeting last night and her platform is Your Vote is Your Voice and she is trying to encourage voting in young adults. She stated that there may be an opportunity to have her tape a segment or clip for the committee to place out on the city website and to potentially send to the schools since it has been difficult getting into the schools to conduct voter registration drives.

Clerk Smith thanked members of the committee who worked the August Election.

b. November Election Deadlines

Clerk Smith reported on important deadlines for the November 8th Election and dates that the clerk's office may need additional volunteer assistance.

STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

Chair Thomas stated that the strategic plan is the big picture for the committee and he will work on that to bring back before the next meeting.

Member Hubbard suggested that public education and election integrity and communicating that to the general public is part of that plan.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Members mentioned election integrity and voter ID requirements for potential articles.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Leann Bigos mentioned that he would like to submit an application to become a member of the committee. Clerk Smith stated that the application can be completed online and that is submitted to the Mayor through the City Manager's Office when submitted on-line. Generally, members are contacted to attend a meeting but since she already has she could recommend to the Mayor appointment.

Robert Levine stated that he was attending various board/commission meetings to gain more knowledge about the city but was not ready to apply for appointment to a committee at this time. He thanked the committee for allowing him to attend and Clerk Smith for her assistance with navigating the website.

MEMBER/LIAISON COMMENTS:

Member Bartos inquired about a presence at the city wide open house. Clerk Smith noted that the open house is scheduled for Saturday, October 8th from Noon-3pm and that the Clerk's Office would have a table to register residents, provide absentee applications and to pass out election brochures. Members Bartos, Brown and Ergas volunteered to assist at the open house if needed.

Chair Thomas noted that that the next meeting date would be September 27, 2022 at 5:30pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Bartos, supported by Hubbard, to adjourn the meeting at 6:17pm.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Pam Smith, City Clerk
City of Farmington Hills