

Elections Committee Meeting  
May 12, 2020

Committee Members: Halie Soifer, Marty Langelan, Lorie Mitchell, Lauren Biel, Jesse Tampio  
Village Manager: Niles Anderegg,  
Council Liaison: Todd Mann  
Residents in attendance: Susan Fattig

Meeting started at 8:31 pm

Residents comments – none  
Committee unanimously approved minutes

Discussion of procedure around “non-conforming” envelopes, and a procedural ruling on whether “swapped” ballots inside of the same household should be counted or discarded. The committee voted to err on the side of inclusiveness to ensure that the intentions of the residents can be captured in our vote count. We will allow the votes to be counted only if envelopes were swapped inside of the same household.

Our legal counsel has advised that the decision be certified case by case. The committee will be able to certify any swapped ballots via zoom to approve that they are indeed envelopes from the same address. We will adjudicate any swapped household envelopes at the beginning of the counting process. We will also get back onto zoom at the end of the electronic counting procedure to adjudicate any non-conforming ballots.

Committee agreed to provide the candidates with a reminder that they may appoint an observer to join the second half of the zoom “counting” to observe how we handle non-conforming ballots. Any individuals appointed by nominees should be indicated prior to the date so that they can be shared on the zoom.

Ballot count will happen on Tuesday, May 26 at 6 pm – 8 pm.

Safety procedures discussion was removed from the agenda as we will be able to adjudicate remotely.

Discussion of email procedure: Niles provided background on the Maryland legal codes surrounding public information procedures, and the committee had a robust discussion about the laws and the needs surrounding the committee email account.

Vote: VMAElections email account access will be shared with the Village Manager and the committee members immediately, and the email account will be migrated over to village servers with a proviso that the committee will determine proper procedures in coordination with state law for future confidential needs of the committee (i.e., forum questions, absentee ballot requests).

Marty notified the committee that Electec failed to rotate voter names, as per our contract. Niles will take this up with them.

Past practice has been that we provided absentee ballots up until the date of the election count. This year we will enforce our deadline of May 8<sup>th</sup> for replacement ballots.

Meeting adjourned 10:10 pm.

\*These minutes were not approved by the FY2020 Election Committee but were submitted by an FY 2020 Committee Member and, in the interest of transparency, are published for public distribution.