JANUARY 14, 2020

The Cumberland County Board of Elections met at the Board of Elections Office at 1:00PM for their regular monthly meeting.

Present:

Floyd W. Johnson, Jr., Chairman

Bobby Swilley, Member Irene Grimes, Member Linda Devore, Secretary Helen Nelson, Member Terri Robertson, Director

Staff:

Angie Amaro

Rick Moorefield (County Attorney)

Guests:

Mildred Gale, Tom Macon, Meta G. Weaver Coaxum, Judy Lowe, Pam

Wade, Peter Apone, Michael Haywood, Andrew Bryant, Jr.

Chairman Floyd Johnson called the meeting to Order at 1:00PM, and presented the Agenda.

ACTION:

Member Swilley moved to adopt the agenda as presented.

Seconded and passed unanimously.

Member Swilley inquired whether we should have Old and New Business as items on our agendas. Chairman Johnson responded that they could be added at any meeting, if needed.

ACTION:

Secretary Devore submitted minutes from the meeting of December 10th for

approval.

Approved 3-1. Johnson did not vote to approve, and stated that he would

give his reason at a later date.

Member Nelson stated that the minutes are a record of what happened at our meeting.

Secretary Devore stated that the minutes were circulated to Board members last week, and none of the Board members offered any additions or corrections. Chairman Johnson replied that he would say something later.

Attorney Moorefield clarified that the minutes have been approved, and there can be no further modifications.

Director Robertson reported that T.C. Berrien Elementary School, which is our current polling site for CC19 has some air quality issues. It is currently closed and unavailable. Therefore, staff has looked at using the VFW building on the corner of Chance and Ramsey Streets. The VFW person we met with was very receptive. The site is within CC19, ADA compliant, and has a banquet room we could use. CC19 is a small precinct with historically low turnout, and the room would be more than adequate. There is ample parking.

Member Grimes inquired whether this would be a good permanent site for CC19.

Director Robertson stated that it is the staff recommendation that CC19 move to the VFW site permanently.

ACTION:

Member Grimes moved that the permanent polling site for CC19 be moved to

the VFW building on the corner of Chance and Ramsey streets.

Seconded and passed unanimously.

Director Robertson reported that we received a reply from Dr. Marvin Connelly, Superintendent

of the Cumberland County Schools, regarding our request for a non-instructional day on election days. They are unable to accommodate our request for the March 3rd presidential primary, but will give consideration for future elections. The Director believes that they will continue to accommodate us for general election days.

Member Grimes reported that she spoke with a member of the School Board who was unaware of our request, so it apparently was not considered by their Board.

Member Swilley stated that he would like our Board to move past the very challenging year we had in 2019 with nearly 40 meetings, and move forward together with renewed respect for our work and our community, without regard for whatever divisiveness there may be on social media—and not let it affect us. We should have no hard feelings toward anyone.

Secretary Devore thanked Mr. Moorefield for attending our meeting, and asked for consensus from the Board to invite the County Attorney to regularly attend our monthly meetings. Members Nelson and Grimes expressed their approval, and no one spoke against the proposal. Devore welcomed Moorefield.

Staff reviewed the February and March meeting schedule with Board Members. Next regularly scheduled monthly meeting is February 11th at 1:00PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:23PM.

Submitted by

Linda Devore, Secretary

Chairman

Member

Member

Member