

Board of Civil Authority Meeting - 2/18/2021

7 pm - Approved Minutes

BCA Present: via Zoom - Patty Kenyon, Heather Grier, Leslie Silver, Meredith Morgan, Elizabeth Cooper, Terry Redfield, Laura Castle, Pat Hemenway, Neil Russell, Nance Dean, Carl Haynes.

Public Present: via Zoom - Kimberly Bushnell - Moderator, Beth Miller, Jenny Talke Munyak, Chris Smid, Hilary Solomon, George Gonda, Maynard Yost, Maria Riley, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman, Deb House.

Terry called to order at 7:00pm

Informational Meeting Monday night, March 1 - virtual capability - dry run test - Kimberly opened the meeting with instructions and information as she would for Town Meeting.

We reviewed the protocols, worked on some helpful hints, and made sure everyone could use the zoom meeting functions on all types of devices. The BCA subcommittee will hold a town wide practice session on Monday, February 22 at 7pm, for those who are new to zoom.

Much of the public left after the town meeting trial run. The BCA thanked them for joining in to help us get more familiar with protocols and zooming with a large group.

Regular BCA business resumed at about 7:40pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 4, 2021

Heather moved to approve the minutes of February 4, 2021 as presented, Neil 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

MARCH 2, 2021 TOWN MEETING PREPARATIONS

VOTER CHECKLIST PREPARATIONS: Patty and Heather gave an update on the status of absentee ballots - just over a dozen sent out last Saturday. They will send the next batch out this weekend.

Patty reported that there were some errors on the Town Officers ballot. Errors included:

- the number of seats for a position on two items.
- There were two Library seats left off the ballot entirely - one of those seats did have a candidate who returned a consent form.
- Grand Juror and Town Agent are no longer state mandated positions but appear on the ballot.

After discussion, the path forward was determined. The errors for number of seats will be dealt with by issuing a clarification in any absentee ballot packages going forward and at the polling place on Town Meeting day. The Town Agent & Grand Juror seats we will leave as is and address if we receive enough write-ins for those positions. Regarding the missing library trustee seats, Terry will talk to VLCT to get their opinion as to how best to handle that, since one of those seats had a consent form turned in for it. Once we have information from VLCT, Patty will contact the candidate to determine the best way to move forward with that.

Kimberly, as the representative from the Library, stated that the Library Board wanted the BCA to know that an error on their seats took place on last year's ballot as well and that they were very displeased in this year's error and what seems to be a pattern of mistakes. They wished to have their displeasure recorded as part of the minutes.

Tabulator test - next week - Tuesday 23rd at 10am - Patty K, Terry, Pat H, Meredith are able to attend. Nance will join if she can. Terry will reach out to Herb to see if he might want to be on hand to walk us through this one more time.

Pat H & Elizabeth have volunteered to drive school ballots to Wells after close of voting.

Patty K has volunteered to go to and be in Wells at 7pm (close of polls) to be a Middletown representative there so they can start processing school ballots as soon as they are done with their town votes.

Public Zoom Test - Monday, Feb. 22 at 7pm
Tabulator Test - Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 10am
School Mtg - Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 7pm
Reg SB Mtg - Thursday, Feb. 25 at 7pm
Town Info Mtg - Monday, Mar. 1 at 6:30pm

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT – ELECTION DAY WORK SCHEDULE - (Leslie, Elizabeth et al)

Elizabeth and Leslie have volunteered to set up the schedule for poll workers according to the same protocols we had in place for the primary and general election.

OTHER LAWFUL BUSINESS (if any) - none

ADJOURN

Pat H moved to adjourn at 8:29, Heather 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 8:29pm

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Kenyon, Clerk