

**Middletown Springs Board of Civil Authority
Meeting Remotely on 2/14/2022, 7:00PM
Approved Minutes**

Board members present: Patty Kenyon, Terry Redfield, Heather Grier, Neil Russell, Leslie Silver, Kimberly Bushnell, Nance Dean, Meredith Morgan, Elizabeth Cooper, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman.

Called to order by Patty K. at 7:04

- Leslie S. moved to approve the minutes of 7/15/21, 8/11/21, and 9/16/21, most of which related to a tax appeal at that time. Terry R. 2nd. Patty K clarified that one does not need to have been present at the meeting to vote.) Motion carried.

This meeting was called because Patty K, as a candidate on this ballot in a contested race, cannot serve as an election official. That includes processing incoming absentee ballots. Heather G is willing and able to serve as the presiding election officer but has limited availability approaching election day. Meredith M and Elizabeth C have both been working already assisting the Town Clerk and can be available while Heather is at work.

- Leslie S moved that Heather Grier, Meredith Morgan, and Elizabeth Cooper all be appointed as election officials for Town Meeting 2022 with Heather as presiding officer. Nance D 2nd. Motion carried.

We need to designate a ballot transport team for the school ballots. In the past it has been Justices of the Peace from different parties. Nance D volunteered, Pat Hemenway is designated as the second member if she is willing.

Meredith M and Beth Miller will serve as support staff for virtual Town Meeting; monitoring the waiting room, muting and unmuting, lowering hands, etc.

Patty K will write an informational mailer, based on last years, providing access information for the meeting and voting. There will be a mailer going out, but not a special issue of the town newsletter.

Town Reports are in the mail to voters and the first batch of 70 absentee ballots has be mailed out. Ballots and the scanners were tested Saturday morning by Patty, Meredith, Elizabeth, and Herb Childress. Everything went very smoothly and Herb will be a poll worker on voting day. His training on and experience with the scanners has been very helpful.

We are very fortunate to have so much help and a great elections team.

Discussion of authorizing the Town Clerk to “challenge” voters. Usually the BCA meets once a year to purge the voter checklist of voters who have moved away, died, or become permanently inactive for some reason. There has been a lot of property transfers in town and the Clerk would like the authority to send a challenge letter (are you still living here?) when she knows that people have moved and checklist updates can be more timely.

- Heather G moved to authorize the Town Clerk to challenge voter registrations of those people who are no longer town residents on an ongoing basis, informing the BCA of activity annually. Terry R 2nd. All in favor, so approved. This authority is ongoing and not limited to 2022.

Robin C-T moved to adjourn at 7:40. Heather G 2nd, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman