

Name of Committee & Date: Board of Election Commissioners, Dec. 1, 2009

Reported by: Ellen Glusman (Also attending from LWVN: Sharyn Roberts, Sue Flicop)

Members present: 3 Commissioners were present: David Mofenson, Fay Cohen, Frances Shaer

Members absent: Ken Hartford

Other officials present: Craig Manseau, Executive Secretary*; Diane Forgione, Deputy Executive Secretary

Main points on agenda and action taken:

Call to Order: meeting begun at 12:05 PM

Roll Call: Hartford absent (no one has heard from him)

Reading & Approval of the Minutes (from meeting of October 6, 2009): Minutes accepted as prepared

Executive Secretary's Report [NOTE: Manseau has returned to referring to his position as "Executive Secretary" this month.]*

Special State Primary, Dec. 8, 2009 – Very short window between General Election 11/3/2009 and earliest day of Absentee voting for Special Election, as well as getting everything ready for polling places. Expecting a very low voter turnout (both in person on Election Day and through Absentee ballots received).

Poll Workers Appreciation Night – Thanked the League of Women Voters of Newton for co-sponsoring the evening and for suggesting the event. Over 100 Poll workers attended, and much positive feedback received.

Polling Day signage – Craig has new "sandwich boards" ready to put out as reminders for the Dec. 8 election. He informed the Commissioners that he will not be getting signs for the Jan. 19, 2010 election because the chance of bad weather (i.e., snow) makes the use of such signs a problem (and would be wasting money if snowplows were just running over them or burying them).

Election Day 11-3-2009 – Successful completion of election noted.

New Business:

Announcement: David Mofenson announced that he is resigning his position as Election Commissioner as of Feb. 1, 2010. He sent in his letter of resignation to Mayor Cohen in October, and agreed to stay on until after the Jan. 2010 Special Election is certified. He thanked a long list of people/positions/organizations that he worked with over the 20 years on the Commission.

Upcoming elections (Dec. 8, 2009, Jan. 19, 2010)

Reminder: January election will require that voters requesting Absentee Ballots will have to file NEW requests, since requests are valid Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 of any given year.

Next Meeting: Next Board of Election Commissioners Meeting: Tues, Jan. 12, 2010, at Noon (room TBD). Since Fran Shaer will be absent, Ken Hartford's ability to attend will determine whether there will be a quorum. If he can't attend that day, a different day/time will be selected (but they would like to meet the week before the Jan. 19 election).

(NOTE: Immediately following the adjournment of the meeting, Craig & Dede will stay to meet with LWVN task force (until 1:30 PM) to continue our discussions.)