

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 200

Columbia, MD 21046

Monday November 23, 2015 at 4:00 PM

Regular Open Board Meeting

PERSONS ATTENDING:

Board Members:

Donna Thewes – Board President
Ann Balcerzak – Board Vice President
Patrick Mullinix – Republican Member
Ray Rankin – Democratic Member (Substitute)
Diane Butler – Republican (Substitute)
Mike Molinaro – Board Counsel

Absent:

None

Staff:

Guy C. Mickley – Director
Charlotte B. Davis – Deputy Director
Carol Hart – Board Secretary

Visitors: None

OPEN SESSION: Ms. Donna Thewes, Board President, called the November Open Board Meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. with an established quorum present.

The minutes from the October 26, 2015 Open Meeting were accepted by a motion from Ray Rankin and a second of the motion was expressed by Patrick Mullinix. By unanimous vote the minutes were approved.

UPDATES and CORRESPONDENCE: President Thewes stated there were no updates or correspondence to report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Thewes had nothing to report to the members. She called for any additional issues Members might want to add to the Agenda. The By Laws were briefly reviewed and it was determined that no Bylaw changes were warranted to date other than an

updated signature page. A signature page will be prepared and signed at the next Board meeting. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the December meeting would be held on December 16 at 11:15 a.m. when the Board members would be attending the traditional Christmas Office Party. Any issues that may arise prior to that date would be discussed at the December meeting. A motion was made by Ray Rankin to accept the Bylaws as written and a second was voiced by Patrick Mullinix. A unanimous vote was expressed by all.

With no new additions to the Agenda, Ms. Thewes turned the meeting over to Director Mickley.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: (See attached)

Director Mickley notified the Board of the need to discontinue using Harmony Hall as a polling location due to renovations that would no longer make it available as a polling place. He informed Board Members of the availability of Atholton High School Cafeteria as a replacement polling place. A motion was made by Diane Butler to replace Harmony Hall with Atholton High School Cafeteria as the replacement polling location. A second was expressed by Ray Rankin. With a unanimous vote by all members, the motion passed.

A brief discussion was held regarding a previous guest, Joel Hurwitz, and his request to change precinct polling places in and around D/P 5-08 (Bryant Woods Elementary School). President Thewes indicated that due to the rollout of a new voting system in the state, the need to replace Harmony Hall as a polling place and subsequently notify all affected voters of this change, plus implementation of many new procedures including same day voter registration, the Board felt there was not sufficient time to address Mr. Hurewitz's request prior to next year's election. Patrick Mullinix made a motion to address changes in polling place locations after the 2016 Elections. A second was expressed by Ray Rankin. All were in favor unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Board Secretary Carol Hart notified the Board members of her effective retirement date, which is February 1, 2016, as well as last days that she will be working in the office.

COUNSEL'S REPORT: Board Counsel Molinaro shared with the Board that he had a brief conversation with the Baltimore County Counsel concerning the status of a referendum petition in Baltimore County. In the spring of 2015 the Maryland legislature made changes in the law regarding advance determinations of petitions. Mr. Molinaro will share more information as he learns more about the new process.

OLD/UPDATED BUSINESS: There was no old business.

ADJOURNMENT: With no additional business to discuss, President Thewes called for a motion to close the meeting. A motion was made by Ray Rankin with a second made by Patrick Mullinix. A unanimous vote was expressed by all.

The Open Board meeting closed at 5:04 p.m.

The next scheduled Open Board Meeting will be on December 16, 2015 at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

G. Carol Hart, Board Secretary

Donna Thewes, Board President