

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Linda J. Sutton
Chair

Michael Flatow
Secretary

Jonathan S. Dills
Member



Robert H. Coffman
Director of Elections

Lamar Joyner
Deputy Director

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING MINUTES – JULY 31, 2012

Board Members in attendance: Chairman Linda Sutton, Secretary Michael Flatow,
Member Jonathan Dills

Staff Members in attendance: Director Robert Coffman, Deputy Director Lamar Joyner, Chris Duffey, Judy Speas, Jacob Wright

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was opened in the Cooper Cardwell Elections Room on July 31, 2012. The meeting convened at 9:08 AM, Chairman Linda Sutton presiding. A large attendance necessitated a relocation of the meeting. Chairman Sutton announced that the meeting would recess at 9:15 AM and be moved to the Commissioner's Meeting Room on the fifth floor of the Government Center. The meeting reconvened at 9:30 AM, Chairman Linda Sutton presiding.

One Stop Plan

Chairman Sutton began discussion by stating that the Board members had previously reviewed 2008 General Election One Stop Voting documents in planning for the 2012 One Stop locations. Secretary Flatow stated that limited funds and equipment should restrict the 2012 One Stop locations to fourteen sites.

Mr. Coffman presented a Forsyth County Polling Locations wall map showing a one, two, and three mile radius of the twelve One Stop locations of the 2012 General Election One Stop Schedule draft. A second version of the draft was prepared with a small schedule change. Eighty-one percent of the registered voting households were displayed to be within a three mile radius of a proposed One Stop location. Mr. Coffman explained that the staff recommended plan strived to be fair to all registered voters by considering the available budget; availability of locations; and, availability of voting equipment. The three criteria in location choice was population density of voters; geographic coverage of the county; and, the previous voting trends of a location. Mr. Coffman recommended that any new version of the plan should probably include the current map omission of a western section of Winston-Salem. Board members agreed to concentrate the discussion on locations only and then review the final schedule afterwards.

Chairman Sutton presented another version of the 2012 General Election One Stop Plan which excluded Old Town Recreation Center and included Brown & Douglas Recreation Center, Malloy/Jordan East Winston Heritage Center and a Miller Park location. Member Dills questioned and Board members agreed that the criteria in making a decision should be available budget, equipment availability, population density of voters and location availability. Secretary Flatow added that voter accessibility was another important factor.

Chairman Sutton allowed several speakers from the meeting who gave differing suggestions to the Board members. During the audience participation, Secretary Flatow moved and Chairman Sutton seconded a motion that fourteen locations, including the Board of Elections office, be included in the 2012 General Election One Stop Schedule. Member Dills stated that a list of the One Stop

locations should be presented with the motion. Secretary Flatow agreed and withdrew the motion. During the discussion, Ronda D. Tatum, Budget and Management Director, was questioned regarding the available budget for the General Election.

Secretary Flatow stated that the Board's goal was to maximize the access to vote for everyone. Member Dills stated that the Board has an obligation to provide a fair, appropriate and efficient voting process and to be good stewards of the county's money. Chairman Sutton thanked the audience for their participation and agreed that a decision should be delayed until the next meeting. Mr. Coffman was encouraged to place the One Stop document information online. Also, he was asked to email all available information and maps representing each One Stop plan to the Board members in advance of the next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The Board had agreed to review the minutes of July 24, 2012 after the One Stop Plan discussion. Chairman Sutton requested that the Board review the minutes of July 24, 2012. Secretary Flatow moved and Member Dills seconded the motion to approve the minutes of July 24, 2012. Motion carried.

Other Business

Mr. Coffman stated that the General Election ballot could be reviewed soon. Board members agreed to place a proposed agenda for meetings on the website.

Adjournment

Member Dills moved and Secretary Flatow seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM. The next meeting will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room located on the fourth floor of the Government Center on August 6, 2012 at 5:30 PM.

Approved:

Linda J. Sutton, Chair

Date

Michael Flatow, Secretary

Date

Jonathan S. Dills, Member

Date

Attachments on File: Forsyth County Polling Locations map, General Election 2012 One Stop Schedule Draft #2, General Election 2012 One Stop Schedule Draft (Sutton plan)