

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Ken Raymond
Chairman

Stuart Russell
Secretary

Fleming El-Amin
Member



Tim Tsujii
Director

Lamar Joyner
Deputy Director

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Agenda

June 6, 2016 – 5 p.m.

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Moment of Silence
4. Public Comments
5. Filing Deadline for Unaffiliated Candidate Petitions
6. Approval of Absentee Ballots
7. Other Business
8. Approval of Minutes
9. Closed Session (If needed)
10. Adjournment

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2016 – 5 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order

A statutory meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was called to order in the second floor meeting room on June 06, 2016. The meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m., Chairman Ken Raymond presiding.

Board Members in attendance: Chairman Ken Raymond, Secretary Stuart Russell, and Member Fleming El-Amin

Staff Members in attendance: Director Tim Tsujii, Chris Duffey, Monica Gary, and Kimberly Stuck

Other Staff: Assistant County Attorney – Lonnie Albright

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Raymond led the pledge of allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Chairman Raymond led a moment of silence.

Public Comments

Chairman Raymond opened the public comment session with instructions. Speakers were asked to complete a public comment card and would have two minutes or less to speak. The speaker's name and address should be stated for the record. Questions should be included during the allotted time and answers would be given at the close of the session. A speaker's time could not be given to another individual. At the close of the public comment session, no additional statements or questions would be heard from the public. The public comment session included the following speakers:

Annette Scipio – 531 Barbara Jane Ave, Winston Salem, NC 27101
Eric Ellison (Forsyth County Democratic Party) – 442 Wachovia St,
Winston Salem, NC 27101
Anne Wilson – 445 Marshall View Ct, Winston Salem, NC 27101
Issac Howard – 8884 Red Bank, Germanton, NC 27019

Chairman Raymond moved to close public comments, Secretary Russell motioned, Member El-Amin seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

The members of the Board addressed speaker comments regarding Early Voting sites and population density, transparency regarding Board of Election meetings and the potential video recording of meetings. Additionally, the Board stated they would consider an alternate to the

Sim RecreationCenter due to construction around the election day polling place.

Filing Deadline for Unaffiliated Candidate Petitions

Director Tsujii addressed the Board regarding the filing date of petition signatures for unaffiliated candidates in the City of Winston-Salem elections. Mr. Tsujii provided a background for the dates that were recommended by the State Board of Elections in September 2015, noting that the date in the Winston Salem City Charter's date for filing a petition conflicts with N.C.G.S.§163-296. Mr. Tsujii provided the Board with the State Board of Election's recommended date of 90 days prior to the election, which would be August 10, 2016. Director Tsujii stated that the August 10, 2016 date would allow for timely processing of signatures as well as ballot placement and requested formal action by the Board to approve the date recommended. Mr. Tsujii noted that the statutes did not accommodate the City of Winston-Salem's elections moving to even-numbered years, thus the need for a binding deadline set by the Board to file the petition.

Member El-Amin inquired if the candidate had been provided with the number of signatures required. Mr. Tsujii stated that they had and that the candidate had turned in signatures for processing. Chairman Raymond clarified the 90 plus day recommendation. Secretary Russell verified date of August 10, 2016. Director Tsujii advised that the date was also in line with the dates provided to Forsyth County and Winston Salem to submit referendums. Secretary Russell motioned to accept the 90 days prior to election day deadline for filing a petition, Member El-Amin seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of Absentee Ballots

Ms. Gary recommended 243 for approval and 3 for disapproval due to missing signatures or other missing information; she also provided the total to date for absentee ballots: 1100 – Civilian, 1 – Military, and 5 – Overseas ballots. Ms. Gary also provided the Board with the One-Stop total of 1,797. Chairman Raymond moved to accept staff recommendations, Member El-Amin motioned, Secretary Russell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Director Tsujii presented the Board with ballots for review that had been remarked during pre-processing.

Other Business

Chairman Raymond inquired of other business such as Early Voting sites; Mr. Tsujii stated that sites could be addressed at the 2 p.m. absentee meeting on Election Day, that precincts had received supplies and had nothing to report other than staff was prepared for Election Day. Member El-Amin inquired if Oak Summit Church was still open, Mr. Tsujii confirmed it was still open. Chairman Raymond stated that he would like to discuss a few sites briefly. Chairman Raymond deferred to Director Tsujii regarding Winston Lake YMCA. Mr. Tsujii stated that Deputy Director Joyner had reached out to Winston Lake YMCA and had received communication back stating that they did not feel it would be feasible to use their facility in November. Due to their non-profit status there is not a statutory provision to demand its use, thus it will not be possible to use in the fall.

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Chairman Raymond inquired about Industries of the Blind, referring to Mr. Joyner and Mr. Duffey's site visit and their statements regarding accommodations for parking and electioneering noted the site might have to be removed from consideration. Member El-Amin recalled that the supervisor at the Industries of the Blind did advise that accommodations could be made for parking. Member El-Amin noted that Industries for the Blind had been diligent in their requests to be used as an Early Voting site; Secretary Russell stated that he would like to look into the site further as well as he has the site on his plan as well. Chairman Raymond stated that the Board would like to have Mr. Joyner advised on potential changes that would enable use.

Chairman Raymond opened for discussion Tobaccoville Community Center, recalling that Deputy Director Joyner had mentioned an issue with the site in March. Director Tsujii advised that the Town Manager was concerned that the location was not a full time facility and would require additional personnel and was unclear whether it would be funded by the Town of Tobaccoville or from the Board of Election's budget. Secretary Russell inquired about who would provide the staff and stated that more information was needed and would like to review sites around the location.

Chairman Raymond deferred to Director Tsujii regarding South Fork Recreation. Director Tsujii stated that the issue at hand was the annual craft show as well as other activities at the site, which would be taking place at the time of Early Voting. Director of South Fork stated that the site could not accommodate parking for all of the activities and Early Voting. Director Tsujii deferred to Mr. Joyner for further comment. The Board discussed the popularity of the site and potential benefit to the craft show from early voters as well as a need for a potential site visit.

Director Tsujii provided revised site plans for plans 1 and 2, advising that on Plan 2 the last Saturday would be from 9 am to 1 pm at all sites. Member El-Amin inquired about Saturday's on the plans. Director Tsujii provided Plan 1 hours for October 29, 2016 would be 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at all sites, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the last Saturday. Plan 2 hours for October 29, 2016 would be 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at all sites and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at all sites on the last Saturday. Member El-Amin requested the Board consider density and other sites.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Raymond called for review and approval of May 31, 2016 minutes. Secretary Russell motioned to approve minutes following clarifications; Member El-Amin seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Closed Session

Chairman Raymond inquired of need for closed session; none provided.

Member El-Amin requested a point of order to remember Muhammed Ali.

Adjournment

Chairman Raymond motioned to adjourn meeting; Secretary Russell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.

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Approved:

Ken Raymond, Chair

Date

Stuart Russell, Secretary

Date

Fleming El-Amin, Member

Date