

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

J. Eric Elliott
CHAIR

Linda J. Sutton
SECRETARY

Jerry D. Jordan
MEMBER



Robert H. Coffman
Director of Elections

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING- MARCH 4, 2008

Present: J. Eric Elliott, Chair
Linda J. Sutton, Secretary
Jerry D. Jordan, Member

Staff: Rob Coffman, Director of Elections
Lamar Joyner, Deputy Director of Elections
Pamela Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 in the Cooper Cardwell Elections Room.

Approval of Minutes- February 7, 2008

The Board reviewed the minutes for February 7, 2008. Mr. Jordan stated he would like a comment he made to be included in the minutes. Ms. Sutton moved to approve the minutes with the recommended change. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment Session

Philip Dickinson- 3720 Kirklees Rd., Winston-Salem, N.C., spoke in favor of having additional one stop sites in East Winston-Salem and South Winston-Salem. He recommended having paper ballots at the one stop sites.

Fleming A. El-Amin- 5400 Novack St., Winston-Salem, N.C., of the Democratic Party of Forsyth County stated his recommendation for additional sites for early voting due to the increase in voter registration as a result of an increase in voter interest. He recommended up to 14 sites for the Primary Election.

Representative Larry Womble- 1294 Salem Lake Rd., Winston-Salem, N.C., Representative of the 71st District, stated he supports an increase in one-stop sites for the 2008 Primary Election. He stated that other counties have more sites and it is not fair for Forsyth County to only have 4 sites. He stated the State of North Carolina as appropriated \$750,000 in grants to help fund additional one-stop sites. Mr. Womble further stated it is predicted there will be a massive turn-out for the 2008 Primary Election and he would like to see the one-stops sites open for extended hours. Mr.

Womble presented the Board with a print out of site locations recommended for one-stop voting. He suggested at least 14 sites.

Frank Dickerson- 371 N. Pine Valley Rd., Winston-Salem, N.C. urged the Board of Elections to have an many one stop sites as possible and to be open on Saturdays and Sundays.

Nan Wolf- 3955 Windsor Place Dr., Winston-Salem, N.C. would like to see an increase of one stop sites from 4 to 14 due to increased voter registration.

Representative Earline Parmon- 3873 Barkwood Dr., Winston-Salem, N.C. Representative of the 72nd District, stated she would like additional one stop sites. She explained that there is money available for additional sites.

Molly Beacham- 1821 Green St., Durham, N.C. of Democracy North Carolina stated same day registration at one stop sites results in higher turnout. She stated additional sites can help with same day registration and voting.

Gail McNeill- 1118 S. Hawthorne Rd., Winston-Salem, N.C. spoke in favor of additional sites.

Joyce McCloy- 212 Evergeen Dr., Winston-Salem, N.C. spoke against having additional sites, stating it is difficult to staff one stop locations.

Matilda Phillips- 129 Old Vineyard Park Rd., Winston-Salem, N.C. asked the Board if the mall could be considered as a one stop location.

Vivian Dillard- 5695 Hickory Knoll Dr., #5, Winston-Salem, N.C. spoke regarding additional sites and the increase in voter registration.

Frances Bowen- 3663 Kinghill Dr., Winston-Salem, N.C. spoke regarding voting equipment issues at her precinct.

Ciat Shabazz- 3727 Barnwell Dr., Winston-Salem, N.C. stated the Board Meeting times are inconvenient for some people.

Jammise Bowen- 3720 Sawyer Dr., Winston-Salem, N.C. spoke regarding the hours of the one stop locations. She encouraged some evening hours to accommodate those who work during the day.

The Board discussed the State Law requiring only 1 one stop location for early voting. There was discussion about the cost of operating a one stop site.

Mr. Coffman explained to the Board that paperwork was completed and filed requesting grant money for one stop voting equipment.

The Board and Staff discussed statutory limitations in having one stop locations in private facilities, such as malls. One stop locations have to be in public facilities.

Mr. Coffman stated he and the Deputy Director, Lamar Joyner, visited the Lewisville Library and he recommends the location as a one stop site.

Ms. Sutton moved to use the Lewisville Library as a one stop location. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Sutton moved to have one stop locations at the Board of Elections office, Lewisville Library, Kernersville Library and the Carver School Road Library and to have the locations open from April 17 through May 3. The motion passed 2 – 1.

The Board and Staff discussed having 1 person for each site trained on same day registration.

The Board discussed having one stop locations at Reynolda Road Library and the Anderson Center for the college population. There was also discussion regarding using the Shepherd's Center, Brown Douglas Recreation and Oak Summit United Methodist Church as possible locations. Ms. Sutton moved to add Reynolda Manor Library, Shepherd's Center, Anderson Center, Brown Douglas Recreation and Oak Summit United Methodist Church as one stop locations. The motion failed 2 -1.

The Board discussed the demographic and geographic balance in proposed sites. There was discussion about having the one stop sites available for weekend and evening hours.

The Board agreed to do 9:00am until 1:00pm on Saturdays and 1:00pm until 5pm on Sundays.

Mr. Elliott suggested holding off on approving additional sites for a couple of weeks to see what transpires in the March 4 Primaries.

The Board recommended advertising the extended hours and days of the one stop locations.

Pollworker Recruitment Update

The Board and Staff discussed pollworker training. The training begins on March 31, 2008. One stop training will be held closer to the beginning of one stop voting. The Board and Staff discussed the current needs for pollworkers.

Ballot Review

The Board reviewed the Primary ballot. There are 5 ballot styles. Mr. Coffman stated the Presidential candidates are certified through the State Board of Elections and are included in the ballot. Mr. Coffman recommended the Board approve the ballot with shading because it is easier to distinguish offices.

Ms. Sutton moved to approve the 2008 Primary ballot with the shading. The motion passed unanimously.

Office Checklist for Election

The Staff and Board discussed the checklist for the Primary Election.

KidsVoting Update

The Board and Staff discussed the KidsVoting program. The PTA's are trying to schedule approximately 6 schools to test the system on Election Day.

Other Business

The Board discussed buying ads in the Winston-Salem Journal and the Chronicle to advertise the one stop sites. There was also discussion about signage at the satellite locations.

The Board reviewed the new absentee envelope.

Mr. Coffman asked for the Board's approval to demonstrate e-pollbooks at 2 precinct locations. He stated one is from Evid which is currently being used by Mecklenburg County. The Board agreed to the use of the e-pollbooks.

Adjournment

Ms. Sutton moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

J. Eric Elliot, Chair

Linda J. Sutton, Secretary

Jerry D. Jordan, Member

