

**MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE TO INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
APRIL 26, 2022 – 5:30PM
CITY HALL – FOUNTAIN VIEW ROOM
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE ROAD, FARMINGTON HILLS MI**

CALLED TO ORDER BY: The meeting was called to order by Chair Marc Thomas at 5:33pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Bartos
Susie Brown
Aimee Ergas
Dawn Raymond
Ashley Riley
Marc Thomas
Lauri Thornhill
Marjorie Whittemore

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rose Christoph
Dennis Hubbard

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Pam Smith and City Council Liaison Jackie Boleware

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by Whittemore, support by Brown, to approve the agenda as published

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Brown, support by Ergas, to approve the minutes from March 22, 2022 as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Brochures to CARES

Clerk Smith brought some of the election brochures that her office distributes to the meeting to be dropped off at CARES as discussed at the last meeting. She stated that she spoke with Todd Lipa of CARES who indicated that they have an informational table at the facility and we were welcome to leave some of the brochures. Member Whittemore offered to drop them off.

Member Brown inquired about the status of registering students in the schools. Member Bartos explained that the League of Women Voters had put together a program that was endorsed by Clerks Smith and Mullison from the City of Farmington and it is now up to the schools. It was noted that the schools would unlikely allow members to come in person to the schools to register students.

Member Ergas commented that in speaking with others on how to reach students, it was suggested using a QR code on a poster. Clerk Smith was asked to look into including the state's QR code on a poster and on future printings of the brochure.

b. Redistricting Update

Clerk Smith provided an update on redistricting in the city and stated that it is anticipated that the State will be done making all changes in the State system soon so that clerks can access their reports for sending out new voter ID cards to all registered voters. She also mentioned that several precinct location changes were required for the August Election only due to construction taking place at several facilities. She reviewed those changes and noted that an insert was included in the brochures to reflect those changes for August.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Founders Festival

Clerk Smith stated that the committee typically takes part in the Founders Festival Parade in July in lieu of meeting and this is another opportunity to distribute brochures on Election information as well as to distribute some give-a-ways such as small frisbees with the committee's name and VOTE printed on them and candy to the crowd. The theme this year is Hawaiian.

STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

Chair Thomas stated that he developed the strategic plan review to keep the committee focused and he thought it would be a good idea to review this at each meeting. He asked for suggested additions or amendments. It was suggested including the parade and posters with QR code as action items under a separate priority titled Educating voters.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

March and April Topic – Democracy and Voting

This article has been on the website and will be until the next article is drafted.

Future Topics – Absentee Voting and Election Workers; Voter ID Laws

Member Raymond distributed a draft of an article regarding Election workers and their role. Clerk Smith said she would review the draft and make revisions as necessary and distribute to the group. Suggestions included mentioning pay, ages that can work, prefacing the article with the need for workers and having consistent language (election inspector vs election worker) as the application is to work as an election inspector.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

MEMBER/LIAISON COMMENTS: Council Member Boleware commented on the importance of getting information out about voting and the fact that the committee seems to be doing a great job with that based on the discussion at the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Thornhill, supported by Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 6:24pm.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Pam Smith, City Clerk
City of Farmington Hills