## **Election Commission**

15151 E Alameda Pkwy, Aurora, CO 80012 Aurora Conference Room April 19, 2023 6:00 p.m.

**Call to Order:** Kadee Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

Roll Call: City Clerk Kadee Rodriguez called roll.

Members Present: Bill McCartin, Molly Barrett, Lori Gimelshteyn and Mike Seufert

Members Absent: Scott Irvin

Staff Present: Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk; Dave Lathers, Senior Assistant City Attorney

**Approval of Agenda**: Bill McCartin motions to approve the agenda, Mike Seufert seconds.

Motion passed.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bill McCartin adds amendments to the 4-5-2023 minutes. Bill McCartin motioned to approve the amended 4-5-2023 minutes, Lori Gimelshteyn seconds. Motion passed.

## **General Business:**

**Election of Vice Chair:** Lori Gimelshteyn motions to elect Bill McCartin as the Election Commission Vice chair, Molly Barrett seconds. Bill McCartin explains that he would like a newer member to be elected as the Vice Chair. Bill McCartin motions to elect Mike Seufert as the Election Commission Vice Chair, Molly Barrett seconds. Motion passed.

**Discussion on Official Statement from Election Commission:** The Commission recaps the main discussion points and course of action from the last meeting. Molly formatted all the pros and cons of the proposed charter changes and distributed a draft letter to the Commission.

Lori asked about performing a study on why there is low voter turnout in the municipal elections. Dave explained that it inherently involves an investment of a budget which the Commission does not have. Kadee explained it would be a challenge for communications to take on the task and add it to the EngageAurora platform. Lori suggests making a recommendation to the council to consider a study, and not for the Commission to vote on. Molly agrees on adding the study as a recommendation to the letter being given to council. Bill recommends utilizing Channel 8 as a resource and focusing more on public outreach before the municipal elections to educate the voters. Kadee informs that she will reach out to the communications team to create brochures and flyers and to promote across social media. After discussion the Commission agreed that they are not able to give an informed recommendation because there is insufficient information on why voters in Aurora don't vote in a municipal election and discussed the need for more time. They felt a study should be done on why there is a low voter turnout.

The Commission finalized and discussed the letter to be presented to the council.

Molly motions to approve the final draft and provide their official recommendation to council, policy committee and citizens policy committee; Bill McCartin Seconds. Motion passed.

**Miscellaneous Items:** Molly requests that if a speaker is going to present at an Election Commission meeting that the Election Commission is notified beforehand if possible.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Bill to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Molly. The meeting is

adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Scott Irvin, Chair