

Election Commission

Virtual Meeting
June 21st, 2023
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order: Scott Irvin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: City Clerk Kadee Rodriguez called roll.

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

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk

Approval of Agenda: Scott Irvin motions to approve the agenda, Lori Gimelshteyn seconds. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes: Scott Irvin motioned to approve the 5-17-2023 minutes, Molly Barrett seconds. Motion passed.

General Business:

Status of Proposed 2023 City Charter Amendments: Kadee updates the commission that the proposed charter amendments have not moved forward to the council meeting agenda. CM Coombs amendment, which is the gender inclusive ordinance, was deferred to the next Study Session agenda since she was absent during the Study Session.

Kadee explained that three (3) charter amendments from police and fire for the 2023 ballot were moved forward. Molly questions what the charter amendments were in regards too. Kadee describes that they were dealing with the rankings and promotions of individuals in the fire and police departments.

Bill questions if there have been any committees that have submitted applications to take the amendments to the ballot. Kadee confirms that there has been a citizens registered issue committee regarding the mayor-council form of government and their information can be found on the campaign finance system. Scott asks if there is a copy of the petition packet that can be reviewed. Kadee reviews the petition packet for the mayor-council form of government amendment with the Commission. Lori informs Kadee that individuals are spreading false information regarding the petition packets and asks how the Commission can inform the public of their right to the 20-day protest period. Kadee explains that they have been working with communications to spread this information to the news organizations. Kadee then explains the petition process and deadlines with the Commission.

Miscellaneous Items:

Voter Engagement Discussion: Lori brought up a prior discussion the Commission had regarding a new role for the Election Commission in terms of educating the citizens of Aurora on their roles and responsibilities. Scott asks what Lori's vision is for this new role. Lori explains that there is an opportunity for classes where the principles of American government are explained and the importance of citizens being an informed active participant in local government. Lori believes that the problem is not voter fatigue but a lack in knowledge of what citizens can do at the local municipal level. Scott recommends that they educate citizens by utilizing the Aurora Votes or Engage Aurora websites and

using billboards and other public marketing to direct citizens to those websites for information. Kadee recommends putting this on the September agenda.

Filed Committees/Candidates: Bill asks if there is a list of people who have filed committees for elections on the website prominently so that it is easy to find. Kadee explains that with the new Campaign Finance website, one of its main purposes is to allow citizens to see who is running for office. The information can be accessed at anytime by the public, instead of manually compiling the information and sending it out. Scott asks if there is a member of the Commission that would be willing to compile a running list of new candidates and committees and report back to the Commission at the beginning of each meeting. Molly volunteers to gather this information and present it to the Election Commission.

Adjournment: Motion by Bill to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Scott. The meeting is adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Seufert", written in a cursive style.

Mike Seufert, Vice Chair