

BOARD OF CANVASSERS
JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND
July 17, 2023

An advertised meeting of the Board of Canvassers was called to order at 9:33 AM by Carol Nelson-Lee at 93 Narragansett Ave. The following member was present.

Ken Newman
Hugh Murphy

Absent: Kitty Wineberg, Alternate

Also present was: Keith Ford, Clerk to the Board of Canvassers

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Murphy made a motion to accept and approve the minutes, as amended, from July 6, 2023. Mr. Newman seconded. So Voted, unanimously

Ms. Nelson-Lee opened the discussion of the review and approval of the nomination papers for the Congressional District 1 (CD1) candidates. Ms. Nelson-Lee asked Mr. Ford to comment on the two sets of nomination papers that have issues with them. Mr. Ford advised that one of the nomination papers he believed was fraudulent was for the Sabina Matos campaign. It had 17 signatures on it where it was confirmed that 3 signatures listed were those of individuals who passed away, several had similar handwriting and two last names were incorrect. One signature did have similarities and was accepted. Mr. Ford reported it to the Secretary of States Office as well as the Board of Elections. They both advised to contact the Jamestown Police Department for an investigation into the matter. Ms. Nelson-Lee commented that there were deceased people on the list. Mr. Ford advised there were several known deceased people. As of Friday, Detective Carlino advised 5 were confirmed deceased and the rest of the list was contacted and confirmed they did not sign the paper. All but three on the list responded back. The Police Department are still investigating. Mr. Ford commented that the signature on the back was a Holly McClaren, and the Jamestown Police are investigating. The second nomination paper with an issue was turned in with one signature on it however the form did not have the affidavit of signatures obtained filled out. The person turning it in was not the person who collected the signature. However, this form was notarized even though there was no signature. The Secretary of States Office was notified of that, they advised to not accept it and they will be forwarding the form to the Notary Division. A discussion ensued.

Ms. Nelson-Lee opened the discussion of the CD1 Primary. Ms. Nelson-Lee commented a meeting must be held on Tuesday August 15, 2023 at 9:30 AM for a final canvass for the Primary Election. All present agreed on the date and time. Mr. Ford commented that the Military and Overseas ballots are due by July 21st, so far, we have none. Mr. Ford also commented that there is also a Cyber Security Summit on Friday, September 29, 2023 at the Naval Base- Newport.

Ms. Nelson-Lee opened the discussion of the upcoming poll worker training. Mr. Ford commented that there are upcoming training classes for Supervisors, Clerks and Moderators for the Primary. Supervisors will have a Zoom class meeting on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 and Wednesday August, 16, 2023 at 5:00 PM. Moderators and Clerks will have a training on Thursday, August 24, 2023 in Middletown, RI. Moderators will be at 5:00 PM and Clerks at 6:30 PM. For the General Election, Supervisor training will be Monday, October 16, 2023 and Tuesday October 17, 2023 at 5:00 PM. Moderators and Clerks will be on Tuesday, October 24 in Middletown, RI. Moderators will be at 5:00 PM and Clerks at 6:30 PM.

Ms. Nelson-Lee discussed the status of the search for the Republican Alternate. Mr. Ford advised that the Town Council has given their approval for the Board to reach out to the Republican Town Committee regarding them submitting names for consideration. Mr. Ford will be mailing a letter out to the Chair of the Republican Town Committee Mary Lou Sanborn.

Ms. Nelson-Lee moved to start the process to certifying the nomination papers.

Mr. Newman moved to adjourn and Mr. Murphy seconded at 10:28 AM. So Voted, unanimously.

Attest:



Keith Ford
Clerk to the Board of Canvassers

Cc: Town Council Members (5)
Board of Canvassers (4)
Roberta Fagan, Town Clerk