



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Approved MADISON ELECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 10, 2011

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 103A (City-County Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

- Present:** 5 - Paul R. Malischke; Sybil R. Better; Jennifer Rubin; Nicole (Nicci) Fite and Andrea R. Kaminski
- Absent:** 1 - Mark Borns
- Excused:** 1 - Rosa J. Garner
- Non Voting:** 1 - Maribeth Witzel-Behl

Karen Peters, County Clerk, and Jean Tretow-Schmitz of the City Clerk's office were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The committee approved the minutes from June 8, 2011.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. [23513](#) Voter ID "Soft Implementation" July 12 and August 9

Witzel-Behl indicated that in July, 10% of voters had no ID with them; that number was 18% of voters at the polls in August. She also stated that election officials reported that voters were upset about being required to sign the poll book.
2. [23514](#) Voter Education on the New Voting Laws

Fite suggested that UW and other higher education political science students be contacted regarding getting the information about Voter ID out on their

campuses. Kaminski mentioned that a coalition of aging groups is looking for information such as the Madison brochure provides, and that stories of those who have difficulty obtaining proper ID be documented. Malischke recommended that "train the trainer" sessions be held. Peters suggested that the public information session schedule be publicized widely. Witzel-Behl invited members to email her with names of groups who should be given Voter ID brochures which are available in English, Spanish and Hmong. She also remarked that the cityofmadison.com website contains the City online calendar of events which will include the information sessions as they are scheduled. Rubin suggested the use of press releases with updates on changes to election laws.

3. [23515](#) Obtaining a Free ID for Voting Purposes

Committee members agreed that it is important to inform the public to get working on obtaining proper ID for voting now, before 2012 elections arrive. Suggestions for improvements to the brochure were also voiced. Peters plans to include Voter ID information in the County marriage license materials distributed by her office.

4. [23516](#) Dealing with Provisional Ballots in 2012

Witzel-Behl gave estimates of high numbers of provisional ballots with implementation of new Voter ID requirements along with descriptions of challenges that the three-day limit for voter presentation of proper ID would create in the Clerk's office.

NEXT MEETING: September 14, 2011

5. [04353](#) Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

Topics for further discussion: Budget and staff for City Clerk's office, continued voter education, encouragement of voter participation by focusing on the positive results of participating in democratic process, actions that citizens can take to promote voter participation, and absentee balloting as practiced in other states.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:27 pm.