Notes from Meeting of City of Salisbury Election Board

And Wicomico County Board of Elections

Thursday, February 9, 2023

City County Government Building, Room 306

Members Present: Susan Carey, Chair, Harry Basehart, Secretary, and Lou Rimbach.

Others Present: Kim Nichols, City Clerk. From the Wicomico County Board of Elections: Dionne Church, Election Director; Bill Blockston, Deputy Director; Judi East, and Paul Noranbrock.

Meeting was held via Google Meet.

Ms. Church called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Discussion focused on the upcoming Salisbury 2023 General Election and the following specifics.

1. Location of polling places with one in each of five council districts:

District 1 – Salisbury Fire Department Station 16, 325 Cypress St. This was used in 2019 General Election with no problems. Station 16 is recommended for 2023.

District 2 – Two sites are under consideration: Truitt Community Center, 319 Truitt St. and Oak Ridge Baptist Church, 361 Tilghman Rd. Expense of moving voting equipment into Truitt Community Center is greater because of various physical obstacles. Oak Ridge has been used in the past. Oak Ridge is recommended for 2023.

District 3 – Two site are under consideration: Asbury United Methodist Church, 1401 Camden Ave. and Guerrieri Student Union, Dogwood Dr, Salisbury University. Dr. Pope, Director of the Institute for Public affairs and Civic Engagement at SU is interested in locating a polling place on campus. Possible parking problem was mentioned at the SU site and it was noted that most dormitory students cannot vote in the city election because the dorms they reside in are outside the city corporate boundaries. Asbury has been used in the past with no problems. Campus site should be considered for 2024 presidential election. Asbury is recommended for 2023.

District 4 – Wicomico Presbyterian Church, 129 Broad St. SEB members mentioned the small room for voting was crowded and difficult for voters to move through easily.

Bethesda United Methodist Church, 406 N. Division St. is a possibility, but location of the parking lot is a problem. Ms. Church and staff will re-visit Wicomico Presbyterian Church to see if the voting area can be more accommodating for voters. Decision postponed.

District 5 – Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, 909 S. Schumaker Dr. has been used in the past. Mr. Rimbach reported that the Ward Museum is now closed. Pending confirmation of closure, Fire Station 1, 1100 Beaglin Park Dr. and Deaf Independent Living Associates, 806 Snow Hill Rd. were discussed as alternatives. Decision postponed.

1. Ms. Church announced that WCBE will review recent city council changes in districting lines and notify registered voters who have been moved into a different district and now will have a different voting place. (Voter Notification Change.)

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Harry Basehart, Secretary