

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

Tuesday, May 29, 2018 5:30 PM

Present: Chair, Del Cook, Sally Cook, Joan Thomas, Marge Munger, Bud Coolidge, Seth Hopkins, Brian Coolidge, Devon Fuller, Laura Peterson, Wendy Rowe Feldman, Clerk, Susan Gage (Bill Moore, arrived at 5:45, Dave Atherton, guest, arrived at 5:45)

I) Discuss Voting Venue

Brian Coolidge, concerned with traffic issues, suggested we think about a different polling place, to both ease up on the construction workers and make it easier for the voters. Marge Munger and Joan Thomas concurred and stated that parking is an issue as well. Sue Gage suggested a mobile polling place, where we receive absentee ballots. Sue believes that switching polling places confuses people. Sue did contact Kathy Mathis about having a mobile polling station at the Senior Center.

Seth Hopkins asked about turnout for the primary. Sue Gage stated that it depended on whether there was a contest or not. We should plan on an average of 300 voters.

Sue explained that a mobile polling station requires just a couple of people to check in voters, handout the ballots, and explain the absentee balloting. A mobile polling station is more of an absentee ballot event.

Devon stated that management has spoken to Don Crowe about clearing things out for voting day. There would be access to parking at the Mobil station and he believed there would not be a lot of construction activity around the town hall. Dave Atherton confirmed this and stated that the plan is to have the park street area finished by then and the focus will be on Route 7 north of town.

Seth likes the idea of a mobile polling station and would prefer we don't pull out of town when we are encouraging people to come downtown and shop. Sally Cook feels that if the construction company is willing to cooperate, then we should leave things as they are and not confuse people about a new polling place.

Marge suggested we hold mobile polling at the Town Hall on the Saturday before the election. Wendy noticed that there was a Downtown Brandon Alliance event on the Saturday before the election as well. We can tie in the two events, offering downtown activities and early voting. Del will pen a letter to the editor and we can do some advertising about it.

A motion was made to have a mobile polling event at the Town Hall on Saturday, August 11, from 10 am to 2 pm. The motion passed.

II) Policies around Polling Place Politicking

Sue Gage distributed the BCA policies and asked everyone to take a look at them as they had to be re-written when the files were lost in the server. Bill Moore noted that we should approve the revised Emergency Evacuation policy at this meeting. A motion was made to adopt the revised Emergency Evacuation Policy, motion passed, policy was adopted.

III) Other Business

Sue Gage mentioned that we still have some challenges for disabled voters. It is very difficult for anyone in a wheelchair to park in front of the town hall and then wheel down to the sidewalk without shooting out into route 7 traffic. Devon suggested we have Daryl look at this and come up with a solution.

IV) Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Gage, Clerk