



STATE OF DELAWARE
office of the
STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER

Elaine Manlove
*State Election
Commissioner*

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**Title 15 Taskforce Meeting
October 16, 2013
Minutes**

Taskforce Members in Attendance: Elaine Manlove, Sen. Margaret Rose Henry, Rep. Earl Jaques, Rep. Deborah Hudson

Taskforce Members Not in Attendance: Sen. Colin Bonini, Andrew Lippstone, Ann Woolfolk

Invited Parties in Attendance: Elizabeth Maron, Richard Forsten, Richard Dillard

Invited Parties Not In Attendance: William Bush

Public in Attendance: Letty Diswood, LWV; Sue Bryson, private citizen; Paul Lanouette, Board of Elections for NCC; Howard Sholl, Dept. of Elections for NCC; Bill Cook (for Sen. Bonini); Apryl Walker, Delaware Alliance for Community Advancement

The meeting was called to order shortly after 1:00 pm. The two topics on the agenda were: Primary Elections and General Elections.

Old Business

Representative Jaques suggested that the new State Board of Elections be comprised of 13 members: 5 from New Castle County, 3 from Kent County, 3 from Sussex County and 2 additional members appointed by the Governor from a list of 3 names submitted by each of the two major political parties.

Primary Elections

- Richard Forsten suggested that filing fees be set no earlier than January 1 of Election year and no later than February 1.
- Rep. Jaques suggested that the date of the Primary Election be moved to the second Tuesday in August. This would allow the Departments time to meet the federal mandate to mail military and overseas ballots 45 days before Election Day. It would also



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eliminate the problems associated with polling places in school buildings when students are in school. The Commissioner will create a timeline of other dates that would have to be changed by virtue of this date change.

- There was discussion around the difficulty Election Day challengers face when they cannot hear the name of the voter. Since the Depts. of Election no longer use signature cards, the challengers cannot review the cards to see if they have missed a voter. The Commissioner informed that group that this is something all four Elections offices have discussed. Currently there is no solution.
- Richard Forsten offered to create a suggested rewrite of Section 3101 regarding withdrawal of candidates to be reviewed at the next meeting.

General Election

Topics discussed included Write-In Candidates, Candidate Residency, Election Officer Training, Electioneering, Provisional Ballots and Voter History. No changes were suggested.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 pm. The next meeting is on November 13 at 1:00 pm at the Dept. of Elections Warehouse, 220 Lisa Drive, New Castle.

- Elaine Manlove