

Howard County Citizens' Election Fund Commission
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

A duly advertised public meeting of the Howard County Citizens' Election Fund Commission was held virtually via WebEx on January 14th, at 6:00 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

Suzanne Geckle
Wendy Slaughter
Douglas Miller
David Loeffler
Ginna Rodriguez-Panqueva
Lillian Norris-Holmes
Jennifer Bevan-Dangel

Staff Members Present:

- **Diane Zagorski**, Chief – Bureau of Tax & Specialty Services, Department of Finance, assigned to assist the Commission pursuant to Code Section 10.310 (h).
- **Brenna Punté-Pinos, Chief** - Bureau of Water/Sewer & Misc. Revenue, Department of Finance
- **Kristen Perry**, Deputy County Solicitor, Attorney for Finance
- **Amanda Mihill**, Assistant County Solicitor, Howard County Office of Law
- **Rafiu Ighile**, Director of Finance
- **Kim Boyd-Washington**, Deputy Director of Finance

As the Chair of the Commission, Ms. Geckle called the open meeting to order at approximately 6:04 p.m.

The following items of business were discussed in open session:

1. Introductions
 - Rafiu Ighile, Director of Finance
 - Kim Boyd-Washington, Deputy Director of Finance

2. Public Meeting
 - The Commission held a public hearing on the proposed Rules of Procedure; no speakers provided comment.

3. Approval of November 17, 2020 meeting minutes:
 - Ms. Bevan-Dangel motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Slaughter seconded the motion. There was a unanimous vote to approve the minutes.
4. Schedule next meeting:
 - Ms. Geckle asked the group if they were interested in meeting this Spring to review training materials for the candidates
 - Ms. Zagorski to send a link for training webinars created by Montgomery County & MD State Board of Elections to the group to review before the next meeting.
 - Ms. Mihill reminded the group that the training might have different qualifying contributions/disbursement figures based on Montgomery County's guidelines
 - Ms. Geckle confirmed date of the next meeting will be scheduled for April 27, 2021 at 6:00p.m.
5. Rules of Procedure:
 - Ms. Geckle asked the group if there were any questions or concerns regarding the Rules of Procedure. No questions or concerns were shared.
 - Ms. Bevan-Dangel motioned to adopt the Rules of Procedure and was seconded by Ms. Slaughter, the Commission voted unanimously to adopt the Rules.
 - Ms. Geckle to send a letter to the County Executive and County Council certifying the Rules have been adopted by the Commission within 30 days.
 - Ms. Zagorski to update the Summary Guide and website with the adopted Rules of Procedure.
6. Contribution Report
 - Ms. Zagorski shared a report showing total contributions from county water & sewer bills and contributions from the county website with the group.
 - A total of \$295 has been collected between January 2019 – December 2020.
7. DefMethod Software
 - The Commission expressed interest in exploring the use of DefMethod software proposed by Dave Scull, Chair of Montgomery County Public Election Fund Commission.
 - Ms. Zagorski to meet with Jared DeMarinis, MD State Board of Elections, to find out more information about this software option and share with the group.
8. Adjournment:

Upon motion by Mr. Loeffler and seconded by Mr. Miller, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the open meeting at approximately 6:30pm.