

SLNC ELECTION COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES (3.19.19)

In attendance:

Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon
Daniel Berson
Eric Kissack
Nick Fox Robbins

GUESTS

Seth Copenhaver
Paul Emmons
Lorraine Getz
Sarah Ullmann

Eric started the meeting at 7:33pm.

Eric passed around the SLNC Candidate listing to make sure that people's names are properly spelled.

Guests introduce themselves:

Paul
Seth
Lorraine
(All are candidates)

2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (5 minutes):

Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction (Up to two minutes per speaker)

Non Agenda Items?

No one has any.

Sarah Ullman arrived at 7:40 and has some non-agenda items she'd like to discuss
What are the materials that voters will encounter when they get to the polling place? A declaration form? Photos and bios?

ERIC: City clerk's office is handling election this year. They are still figuring out some stuff, Eric hasn't gotten firm answers. But the basic gist is that there will be a self affirmation form
If you are part of a community interest group you will be required to :

1. provide an address of the community interest group.
2. a website of the community interest group.

Someone can challenge community interest stakeholder and so there needs to be specific information. Sarah brings up the fact that with the reservoir surveys they have defined stakeholders differently.

You have to be part of an affirmed community group. If you use the reservoir twice a week, the farmers market once a week, the dog park once a week, you are not a stakeholder.

According to Jerone, we became self affirmation two years ago in the bylaws, now all that someone has to do is SAY that they are part of the organization.

Paul Emmons says that he reads it as the only requirement you have is to affirm that you are a member of the organization. Heather says that there can be a challenge and that if there are not minutes etc. it can be challenged.

Paul says that it is a contract and they can't challenge your membership.
Do all stakeholders need to be listed on the website need to be posted? No.
But minutes need to be posted on the website.

Is there parking at the polling place?
Yes, the church has two lots that have a lot of spots.

You're allowed to vote for 2 candidates in your region and 7 candidates at-large.

Heather makes a point of order that public comments can't be a discussion.
Eric mentions that he's not on the board and not as up to date as Heather about proper procedure.
Further discussion is stopped.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:

A. Patching and distribution of banners (5 minutes)

Review of banners - 1 to go at the Silver Lake Rec Center
The other to go to Bellevue.
Eric will handle the Silver Lake Rec
Daniel volunteers to do the Bellevue Banner
Pushing for a Lucille location, but it will ultimately be up to Bellevue center.

B. Distribution of flyers and posters (5 minutes)

Eric hands out the postcards and posters promoting the elections.
Everyone takes a handful of flyers and encourages everyone to pass them out when they are at their local coffee shop.

C. Candidate Forum (30 minutes)

Discussing the logistics of the upcoming forum.

It's at the JCC Jewish Community Center.

Paul asks about who is moderating. Charles Fleming.

Sound system will be set up.

There will be a table where candidates can set up their flyers.

There will be 34 candidates on site (perhaps a few won't show up but assume 34).

Charles Fleming and Eric discussed how long everyone will have to answer.

Eric sent out an email to those who were running unopposed and they all felt strongly that they should be involved in the process.

Jerome says its not up to them because they are running unopposed and they've already won. It was the committee decision.

Eric says he feels uncomfortable shutting them down if they want to speak. Their perspective is that they shouldn't be singled out.

Jerome persists that people will only get 2 ½ minutes without people who are running unopposed getting the same time. Unopposed get 1 minute and then they are done.

Heather points out that this was already voted by the election committee.

Heather asks if there will be bios printed for people to read. Eric has designed a basic document with all candidates so that they can take notes as they go along.

Eric does the math on how many candidates are running unopposed.

There are 14 regional candidates that are competitive.

There are 6 that are non competitive.

Only the non competitive candidates get a minute to talk about themselves.

The other competitive candidates will answer the questions.

Jerome asks if there are ground rules for the moderator.

Moderator asks a question and each candidate has 1 minute to respond.

Most people in the past did not take their full minute.

Eric has not told Charles what questions to ask.

Everyone in a group will be asked the same question.

Jerome brings up that people will complain that its unfair that candidates on the slate don't get as much time as everyone else (referring to those that are running unopposed)

Heather encourages Eric to tell Charles to think of 30 second questions as opposed to 1 minute questions.

Jerome brings up that there should be a timer used. Eric asks if they can get an assistant to run the timer. Darius keeps the timer and Jerome said he'll run the timer.

Eric brings up that a minute is not very long. Jerome agrees.

Jerome suggests that Eric get an idea of some of the questions that Charles want to ask without anyone else knowing.

Eric asks Daniel's perspective regarding letting non-competitive candidates speak. Daniel says he was initially sympathetic to people wanting to be heard, but now he understands why time constraints might be necessary. He brings up that someone who is thinking about running for a term in two years won't get an opportunity to put themselves forward.

Nick points out that they will have the same opportunity as all candidates when they are running opposed.

Heather brings up that the committee voted to reduce the minutes of those running unopposed. Eric agrees.

Paul Emmons asks if any City Officials are coming. If they do then, Heather points out, should be introduced. As a courtesy, city officials should be invited. Eric says he will send out emails.

Paul Emmons says he'll send an email to Jimmy Gomez' rep.

Lorraine asks if the press is invited. Eric says that a woman from the Los Feliz Ledger will be there. Lorraine and Heather suggest the Eastsider. Sarah suggests LAist. Seth suggests LA Taco. Heather suggests Adam Schiff's rep. Jerome says she doesn't come to board meetings.

Heather is reaching out to Emily Alpert Rias from the LA Times.

i. Execution of food

Heather volunteers to help set up the food.
Candidates will have individual waters.

ii. Placement of signs

Entrance to the JCC is on Effie.
A sign will be placed on the corner of Sunset and Bates.
Sign place on the door of Bates that won't be open.
And a sign on the alley of Bates.

Jerome asks if there will be balloons.
The issue of how it will be purchased is brought up.
Lorraine brings up that the 99 cent store sells balloons and helium.
It will be \$5 and is considered to be an issue that can be taken care of.
Terry will be asked by Eric about next steps for balloons.

iii. Extra volunteers

Nick asked whether he can help set up the candidate forum while also being a candidate. Eric thinks that he has enough helpers without candidates helping out.

Eric agrees that being there at noon will be ok.
Daniel will get there at noon.
Seth asks how many people will show up.
Eric says that probably 30-40 people will likely show up.

D. Discussion of final push to get the word out (20 minutes)

FB gameplan - Heather says she doesn't see the FB ad. Eric says he'll check in about the FB ad.

Heather asks why they are not using the branding for the candidate forum. The outreach committee is not using the branding. Eric says that he will attempt to discuss it with the outreach committee.

Eric is going to reach out to Christina to get a banner on the SLNC website that there is an election. Heather also asks about the FB page and why there isn't information about the election.

Heather asks if there is a dedicated newsletter. Eric says there isn't a dedicated one, but that it should be included in the newsletter.

Heather says that we're going to take a hit that there's no online voting and that it will confuse people. Jerome says that if we're not getting traction and if the ads are not running that are supposed to be running, he should be told. He doesn't think he can do anything but he wants to know. Heather suggests that DONE might be interested in knowing this. They can't hear it from Heather and Jerome but maybe from Eric.

The Farmer's Market will be available for promotion the Saturday before the election. Heather suggests to ask candidates who aren't running that they either come support the forum or go to the farmer's market on the morning of the election. Eric doesn't think they'll come.

Election Committee members should make an individual push to people they know to work the farmer's market the day of the candidate forum and the day of the election.

Sarah Ullman suggests connecting the city's voter file with the FB ads, to target the voter file specifically. Eric thinks that's a good idea.

Seth points out that there are some rules to politicized information on FB. Eric points out that the Outreach committee has done some outreach in the past, including the candidate filing period which ended in november.

Sarah points out that the SLNC FB page is a government page vs. a partisan political page.

Paul asks about Next Door. Eric says he will reup on the Next Door event. Eric says he'll email the event to the committee.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS (10 minutes)

A. Review and adoption of February 27, 2018 minutes, available at:

<http://silverlakenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Election-Committe-Minutes-2.27.19-Draft.pdf>

Heather notes that her public comment was not in the minutes and would like it added in verbatim.

Heather would also like the minutes to reflect the conflict that occurred at the meeting.

The committee voted on accepting Heather's adjustment to the minutes and to approve the minutes. Eric voted yes. Jerome seconded. Heather voted yes. Daniel said he wasn't at the meeting but had no objections.

Sarah asked if the 100 ft no campaigning rule applied to neighborhood council elections. The answer is yes that it does apply.

5. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (5 minutes)

Discussion of the next meeting for the committee is TBD.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Eric makes a motion to adjourn. Jerome seconds.

The meeting is adjourned.