Regular Meeting of the Cincinnati Elections Commission Minutes of December 9, 2021

CEC members present: Seth Walsh, Terry Rath, Constance Hill, and Marcus Bethay

City representatives present: Zach Southwood, Law; Linda Smith, Law; Christopher Liu, Law; and Jill Robb, Law

Old Business:

1. Approval of November 18, 2021, meeting minutes.

Mr. Rath moved for approval of the November 18, 2021, minutes, and Ms. Hill seconded. A vote was taken, and the November 18, 2021, minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business:

1. Welcome new CEC member Marcus Bethay II.

Mr. Bethay was sworn in on December 3, 2021. His signed paperwork is held in the records of CEC.

2. Updated recap of preparation and outreach in anticipation of December 10th filings.

Mr. Liu explained that the Law Department has made a concerted effort to reach all the campaigns from the last election cycle to remind them of the December 10th campaign report filing deadline. Seven campaigns have already submitted their reports and they have been uploaded to the CEC finance portal.

3. Discussion and identification of possible enhancements to the CEC campaign finance portal.

Mr. Liu explained that the CEC finance portal is available for the public to view online and that this is the first full election cycle that the portal has been used. The Law Department will continue to work with IT to improve it and make it more user friendly. The Law Department would like input from the CEC regarding the portal.

4. Discussion and identification of possible amendments to the CEC rules.

Mr. Liu led a discussion about the possible amendments to CEC rules 13, 23, 24 and 11. There can be a further discussion after the December 10th filings.

Mr. Walsh recommended creating automatic triggers when a campaign is in default. He also discussed setting a standard within the rules for the CEC responding to questions from campaigns.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.