

**Special Meeting of the Cincinnati Elections Commission
Minutes of November 18, 2021**

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

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

Old Business:

1. Approval of October 26, 2021, meeting minutes.

Mr. Rath moved for approval of the October 26, 2021, minutes, and Ms. Hill seconded. A vote was taken, and the October 26, 2021, minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business:

1. Update on questions and records request from Brian Garry campaign regarding the fine imposed for the late filing.

Mr. Liu explained that the Decision Entry to fine the Garry campaign was mailed to them on November 3, 2021. The Garry campaign acknowledged receipt of the Decision and inquired what their options were beyond paying the fine imposed. He further explained that if the Garry campaign wants to appeal this fine, pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code it would be handled through Hamilton County and not the City. The Garry campaign has made a public records request inquiring if other campaigns were sanctioned in a similar manner which the Law Department is collecting responsive documents for release.

2. Discussion of CEC Rules that need to be revised.

Mr. Southwood asked the CEC to look at the rules before the December meeting because at that meeting the Law Department will be presenting some suggestions for revisions to the rules.

3. Discussion of preparation and outreach in anticipation of December filings.

Mr. Southwood explained that an email was sent to the successful campaigns and to the unsuccessful campaigns on November 5, 2021, as a reminder of the December 10, 2021, filing deadline. The Law Department will send out another email reminder and then call the campaigns that do not respond to the email. In addition, the finance portal will send out an automated email reminder.

4. Update on issues for 5-month report.

Mr. Southwood explains that pursuant to the Charter, the CEC files a 5-month report after the election summarizing the issues that that the CEC has addressed and the current election cycle. It will also address any changes such as the change in term, the finance portal, and changes in the staffing of the Law Department to support the CEC.

The report will suggest options of how to notify campaigns that the CEC exists.

Mr. Walsh points out that Ms. Moore's term is over and asks if there is a plan to fill the 2 empty positions. Mr. Southwood confirms with Ms. Zimmer that a new member will start December 1, 2021.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for December 9th, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.