

## **MINUTES OF THE GREB WORKGROUP**

### **MEETING**

**JULY 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2019**

### **MCGUIREWOODS CONFERENCE ROOM**

### **CANAL PLAZA, RICHMOND**

The GREB Workgroup convened at 10:00AM on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 in the McGuire Woods conference room, Richmond, Virginia.

Present: John Hager, Kate Hanley, Al Ablowich, Lisa Jeffers, Robin Lind, Cris Watkins, Michele White, Bill Bell, Clara Belle Wheeler and Barbara Tabb.

Attending from the public: Carol Nagle, LWV; Betty Cabrera, Les Sullivan, Deb Wade and Katie Boyle. Virginia Mercury and independent reporter also attended.

Kate Hanley, co-chair took a moment to recognize and reflect on the horrendous day in Virginia Beach in May and to recognize Al Ablowich from Virginia Beach.

VERIS replacement guidance discussion was led by Al Ablowich. Al has drafted some questions concerning the budget bill (HB 1700ER2) much of which will need answering from the Commissioner of ELECT, Chris Piper. A discussion ensued about many aspects of the replacement of the VERIS system. Robin Lind had been in contact with the Commissioner regarding the role of the GREB Workgroup in replacing the VERIS system. With many other unanswered questions, it was decided to invite the Commissioner to our next meeting and share the questions we have in replacing the VERIS system.

USPS Survey discussion from Bill Bell, as he had received some completed surveys. The consensus seems to be that it takes at least 2 days for mail to arrive at our offices from where ever it is mailed. Discussion was held as to adding another component to the survey by asking others within our communities to participate to get another view of the mail being returned. It was suggested to have Officers of Election participate. Bill will create another survey and it will be discussed at our next meeting.

Election Expenses Template discussion was led by Michele White. It was discussed adding more columns to the spreadsheet to completely cover every

cost associated with an Election. Michele will prepare the spreadsheet for the next meeting.

Director of Elections Salary reimbursement has been compiled by Barbara Gunter. Barbara had emailed her report and copies were printed and distributed to the members attending the meeting. Barbara did an alpha by locality report of Directors of Election salary, population and the State reported salary along with any supplements from each locality. Barbara also aligned the report by top supplements to 0 supplements. The report is quite telling. 17 localities appear to not get any supplement. A question arose as to whether the 5% in retirement is being paid by the locality or is the individual Director having to pay that themselves. Since Barbara couldn't attend the meeting, this will be discussed again at next month's meeting. We also need to set a clear goal for what we want to see gained from our efforts of collecting the data.

Performance Review Document or the Annual Review Document for General Registrars was discussed. The GREB Workgroup had revised the form several years ago and presented it to ELECT and SBE. However, the document had not been adopted by the SBE. Discussion ensued that we would see that the Benchmark Workgroup would add this to their agenda and support the passage of the document the GREB Workgroup had created.

Reorganization of the SBE was discussed and Robin Lind will provide the group at the next meeting a draft of potential legislation.

Robin Lind had received word from The Commissioner, Chris Piper that he would be able to attend our next meeting. He will be first on the agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at 10:00AM, McGuire Woods Office Building. The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted

Lisa Jeffers

Temporary Permanent Recording Secretary

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