

**MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE TO INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
APRIL 25, 2023—5:30 PM
CITY HALL—VIEWPOINT ROOM
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE ROAD, FARMINGTON HILLS MI**

CALLED TO ORDER BY: The meeting was called to order by Chair Dennis Hubbard at 5:33 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Brown
Rose Christoph
Aimee Ergas
Dennis Hubbard
Ashley Riley
Lauri Thornhill
Marjorie Whittemore

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Bartos
Dawn Raymond

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Smith
Marcus Johnson, Oakland Early Learning

The committee welcomed Marcus Johnson from Oakland Early Learning – OCC to the meeting. He was invited to attend future meetings as available to lend a student voice to the group on voter education and the best way to reach students are or will be of voting age.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Thornhill, support by Ergas, to approve the agenda as published.
Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Christoph, support by Brown, to approve the minutes from February 28, 2023 as submitted.
Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF REVISED STRATEGIC PLAN

Clerk Smith mentioned that the video division and communications director would be hopefully joining the committee at their May meeting to discuss short video clips for voter education, particularly once new procedures are in place due to Proposal 2 such as new drop boxes, pre-paid postage, permanent ballots lists and early voting. She would provide the legally required information for the committee members to create a script and video division would assist with making the video and Marcus could help with reaching the student-aged voters.

Clerk Smith mentioned that she feels the city is in good shape as far as election workers for 2023 as they had a great response in 2022. More recruitment could start towards the end of the year and she expects a lot of interest in 2024.

Member Whittemore updated the committee on the voter registration drive at Farmington High School in conjunction with the Farmington Clerk's Office and mentioned that she has also been in contact with the Principal from North Farmington to plan a drive at that high school hopefully soon. She mentioned the

possibility of distributing information at the Farmington Farmer's Market and members were very interested in participating.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Marcus Johnson, Oakland Early College Guest.
As mentioned, Marcus was invited to assist the committee in reaching student-aged voters through the video clips developed
- b. High School Voter Registration Update
Member Whittemore provided the update earlier in the meeting during review of the strategic plan. A banner with the QR code for voter information was suggested to be used at future events.
- c. CTIVP News Bulletin
Clerk Smith noted that Member Ergas drafted some general voter information and Chair Hubbard prepared a news format to use for all future bulletins
- d. Clerk Update on Proposal 2 implementation
Clerk Smith updated the committee on Proposal 2 indicating that there are still a lot of unknowns and legislative or rules from the Secretary of State that need to be developed to direct Clerks on how to implement Proposal 2. Drop boxes will be the first thing to roll out to Clerks. Farmington Hills will need 4 additional drop boxes to meet the new requirements and Clerk Smith noted that she has already talked to Fire Chief Unruh about potential placement at the Fire Station buildings since they are already strategically placed throughout the community. Nine days of early voting is required; however, what that might look like and technology needed is still being discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

MEMBER/LIAISON COMMENTS:

Member Ergas mentioned an MLive article that showed Michigan was #1 when it came to youth voter turnout.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Ergas, supported by Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting: June 27, 2023

Pam Smith, City Clerk