



Lowell City Council

Ad-Hoc Elect. Laws SC Minutes

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: June 13, 2018
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Sullivan School
150 Draper Street, Lowell, MA

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Nuon, C. Leahy and C. Kennedy. Also present were C. Cirillo, C. Mercier, M. Samaras and Eda Matchak.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

C. Nuon called the meeting to order noting the attendance and sponsorship of the Belvidere Neighborhood Association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

C. Nuon outlined meeting process. John Geer, President of Belvidere Neighborhood Association, described the organization and purpose.

C. Nuon open meeting to public with following people addressing the subcommittee. Ann Marie Page commented on the need to register more voters and voter involvement indicating that the current system is the best form of representation. Judith Durant noted the need for neighborhood representation by use of district and at large voting and that more education about the process should be made available. C. Noun noted motion of C. Kennedy calling for an educational element to this issue. Deb Forgione noted the current system allows access to nine councilors and best serves the City; further noting the need to increase voter registration and to be more familiar with the issues in your neighborhood. Paul Ye noted that the current system is difficult for a new comer and that he would favor an at-large and district form of representation. Michelle Rivera commented on language barriers noting the need to change and to have change mean something. John Geer noted the need to vote is important and become informed and any voting system will be representative. C. Kennedy outlined city manager form of government and questioned who would favor a strong mayor which may be better fit with district representation. C. Cirillo note importance of education to spread



information in the community. C. Cirillo indicated that councilors represent the whole city and that Lowell Votes is organization which assists in informing citizens. C. Kennedy outlined the many notices and how they are done concerning information on meetings. C. Mercier noted reason for creation of subcommittee and the type of government she would prefer noting that the people should make that choice and that she would work in any system. C. Mercier was favorable about educating the youth regarding our form of government and voting and that she is accessible to all neighborhoods. M. Samaras noted the need to provide information and to translate as needed. C. Cirillo noted different manners to contact councilors. C. Leahy noted the goal of the meeting was met and that information is provided through different means and that involvement is the key to success. Nancy Pitkin noted the need for all to be involved. C. Noun made closing remarks and thanked the Belvidere Neighborhood Association for their sponsorship.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by C. Kennedy, seconded by C. Leahy. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk
