

Lincoln Board of Civil Authority Meeting Minutes May 1, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Town Office

Present: Nancy Stevens, David Marsters, Wendy Truax, Sally Taylor, Bill Finger, Sally Ober, Will Sipsey, Ann Pollender, Paul Forlenza, Oakley Smith, and guest Ellie Bryant.

1. Vice Chair, David Marsters, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Nancy made a motion and Wendy seconded, to approve the minutes of our last meeting. Passed.
3. Discussion of the polling place location for our next three elections, the 2018 August Primary, 2018 November General, and Town Meeting 2019. **Oakley made a motion to keep all future elections here at the Town Office, Bill seconded.** Discussion: parking, voter experience, space, capacity. It is definitely easier for town officials to hold elections at the office, but voter experience is more important. Sally O. indicated that she has gotten more positive feedback about having the polling place at the Town Office than negative. Most negative feedback was that people were nostalgic for Burnham, not that this location was bad. Positives of the Town Office are: level approach for people with mobility challenges, parking is better according to some, the bake sale in the lobby worked well. Negatives for the Town Office: it is a smaller space, we may lose the ability to get polling place grants for Burnham, some people thought parking is better at Burnham. **Nancy Stevens called the question, Wendy seconded.** Passed. Vote on the main motion to hold all elections at Burnham: **Will Sipsey asked for a roll call vote.** Voting in favor: Bill, Paul, David, Sally O., Sally T., Oakley. Voting opposed: Will, Ann, Nancy, Wendy. The motion passed.
4. Use of the tabulator. Sally O. made a motion not to use it in August, yes to use it in November, and maybe in March depending on candidates on the ballot. Ann seconded. Discussion: now that we have the tabulator, some thought we should use it all the time to be consistent, and that it should be budgeted for. Sally said we don't have money in the budget now to use it in August. The estimated programming costs for August would be about \$1700, because there are three different ballots. We are actually required to use it in November. Passed.
5. Discussion of what we learned from the March 6, 2018 election. Sally was concerned that since using the tabulator, voting results have not been perfectly accurate. BCA felt they were not significantly off (1-4 votes in some races would not change outcomes). If an election was close, a recount would clarify any discrepancies. See attached hand out prepared by Sally Ober. It was decided that BCA members will need more training prior to the next tabulator election.

Adjourned at 7:01 p.m.