



Maryland Association of Election Officials

Representing the Local Election Boards of the State of Maryland

MINUTES

2018 Annual Meeting of the Membership Ocean City, Maryland

The Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) Annual Meeting of the Membership was held in the Crystal Ballroom of the Clarion Resort Hotel located at 10100 Coastal Highway in Ocean City, Maryland. The Meeting was called to order by President David Garreis at 9:05 am on the 14th day of March, 2018. Proper notice and the meeting agenda was provided.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Garreis welcomed all attendees, speakers and vendors. He introduced the Board and the Secretary, Ruie Marie Lavoie, conducted roll call.

Board Members Present:

President David Garreis, Anne Arundel County
Vice President Alysoun McLaughlin, Montgomery County
Secretary Ruie Marie Lavoie, Baltimore County
Treasurer Danna Williams, Baltimore County
Board Member Alisha Alexander, Prince George's County
Board Member Mary-Frances Alcoser, Baltimore County
Board Member Armstead B. Jones, Baltimore City
Board Member Gilberto Zelaya, Montgomery County
Board Member Gail Hatfield, Calvert County

The twenty-four (24) Maryland jurisdictions and the State Board of Elections were represented and responded as present which established quorum. Lou Ann Trummel, Board president, Worcester County, said a prayer for deceased members and their families. Ellie Wang, Board President, Baltimore City led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Garreis recognized the efforts and hard work of Ruie Lavoie, Baltimore County, and thanked her along with the Hosts, Baltimore City and Worcester County. He announced this year's theme, "Waves of Change, Oceans of Opportunity" which personifies what we continuously do as election officials. Election officials drive for perfection and MAEO helps to shepherd the process. MAEO has accomplished a lot over the past year. He thanked the MAEO Committee Chairs and members, and highlighted a few accomplishments.

MINUTES

Secretary Ruie Lavoie provided the Membership a draft copy of the Minutes from the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Membership. President Garreis asked for additions or changes. There were no changes or additions requested.

MOTION: Katie Brown, Baltimore County, motioned to accept the Minutes from the 2017 Annual Meeting as written.

SECOND: Guy Mickley, Howard County

ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, the Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Danna Williams presented the Treasurer's Report and a copy was provided to the Membership. An Audit was completed by the Audit Committee and a copy of the findings were provided to the Board and to the membership. A copy of both reports are attached to and made part of these Minutes.

MOTION: Mary-Frances Vavra- Alcoser, Baltimore County, motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report and Audit as submitted.

SECOND: Alisha Alexander, Prince George's County

ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, the Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Committee Reports were submitted by the Committee Chairs, and copies were provided to the membership. Copies of submitted reports are attached to and made part of these minutes.

Chairman Commissioner Thomas Hicks, United State Election Assistance Commission spoke briefly about the upcoming gubernatorial election cycle and the critical role election officials play in the process. Diane Purnell, Worcester County Commissioner welcomed everyone to Ocean City. Linda Lamone, State Administrator gave opening remarks and Jeff Stevens, Election Committee Chair explained the election process. Biographies of all candidates were provided to the members in the conference attendee folders. Voted ballots can be delivered to the Election Committee. The election will take place in Conference Room 4 between 12:15 pm and 1:30 pm. The results will be announced prior to the Annual Meeting adjournment.

President Garreis and Secretary Ruie Lavoie provided important reminders regarding meals and other conference information.

A copy of the Annual Meeting agenda is attached to and made part of these Minutes. Morning presentations included:

- Polling Place Emergency Preparedness
- Department of Homeland Security – Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

The 2018 Annual Meeting was recessed for a lunch break at 12:00 pm. The MAEO Shining Stars were announced and recognized. Shining Star awards are presented to MAEO Members in good standing who goes above and beyond their normal scope of duties.

The vendor and sponsor introductions were during the lunch break and attendees were encouraged to visit the vendor area located in the Terrace Lobby.

President Garreis reconvened the Annual Meeting at 1:30 pm. The afternoon sessions conducted on the first day of the conference were as follows:

- Media Relations – Bridging the Gap
- Attorney Roundtable
- All Things Absentee and Nursing Homes Program
- Innovative Election Judge Recruitment
- Information Technology Roundtable – Conducting the Election
- Employee Reclassification and Promotions
- 2018 legislative Update

The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Membership was recessed at 4:45 pm to be reconvened on March 15, 2018 at 9:00 am in the Crystal Ballroom of the Clarion Resort Hotel located at 10100 Coastal Highway in Ocean City, Maryland.

President Garreis reconvened the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Membership at 9:06 am on March 15, 2018 in the Crystal Ballroom of the Clarion Resort Hotel located at 10100 Coastal Highway in Ocean City, Maryland.

Board Members Present:

President David Garreis, Anne Arundel County
Vice President Alysoun McLaughlin, Montgomery County
Secretary Ruie Marie Lavoie, Baltimore County
Treasurer Danna Williams, Baltimore County
Board Member Alisha Alexander, Prince George's County
Board Member Mary-Frances Alcoser, Baltimore County
Board Member Armstead B. Jones, Baltimore City
Board Member Gilberto Zelaya, Montgomery County
Board Member Gail Hatfield, Calvert County

Roll Call was taken by Ruie Lavoie, Secretary. The twenty-four (24) Maryland jurisdictions and the State Board of Elections were represented and responded as present, establishing a quorum.

Ruie Lavoie extended special appreciation to Katie Brown, Director of Baltimore County for allowing her the time to organize and plan the conference and for allowing her to be active in MAEO. She also thanked Ms. Brown and Baltimore County for all of their time and contributions to this year's conference and past conferences.

President Garreis welcomed all attendees to day two of the Annual meeting and conference. He provided important information and reminders and introduced Nikki Charlson, Deputy Administrator of the Maryland State Board of Elections. Ms. Charlson gave the opening remarks reminding that we are an "election family" and our commitment is shown with every successful election. She spoke briefly about planned activities to help prepare everyone for the 2018 election cycle. The Board thanked Ms. Charlson for always contributing positively to our conferences.

The morning sessions were as follows:

- Election Alert: At the intersection of Process and Outcome
- Managing Diversity and the Generations Gap in Elections

The 2018 Annual Meeting was recessed for a lunch break at 11:59 am. President Garreis reconvened the Annual Meeting at 1:30 pm.

The afternoon sessions conducted on the second day of the conference were as follows:

- Canvass Review procedure review and the definition of a Vote
- Supervisor training
- Same day registration
- Post-Election Audits
- Voter Engagement and Empowerment
- The magic of Communication

The 2018 Robert J. Antonetti, Sr. Outstanding Achievement Award was presented to Alisha Alexander, Prince Georges' County. This Award honors one individual who is a member in good standing, has a record of continuous outstanding contributions to the organization, supports the MAEO mission statement; and goes above and beyond to support MAEO and the local Maryland jurisdictions. The entire Board and Awards Committee thanked Ms. Alexander for her

service and dedication and congratulated her on the achievement. Joseph Torre, Anne Arundel County was inducted in the Maryland Association of Election Official's Hall of Fame.

Jeff Stevens, Election Committee Chair announced the elections results. The elected Maryland Association of Election Officials Officers and board members for the term 2018 to 2020:

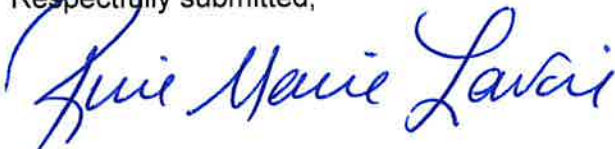
David Garreis, President (Anne Arundel County)
Alisha Alexander, Vice President (Prince George's County)
Ruie Marie Lavoie, Secretary (Baltimore County)
Danna Archie-Williams, Treasurer (Baltimore County)
Ben Frey, Board Member (Somerset County)
Abigail Goldman, Board Member (Baltimore City)
Armstead B. Jones, Sr., Board Member (Baltimore City)
Kimberly Phillips, Board Member (Howard County)
Joshua Ramos, Board Member (Anne Arundel County)

President Garreis again thanked everyone for attending the conference, extended appreciation to the Hosts, Baltimore City and Worcester County. He also provided closing remarks and hotel check out information.

The next meeting will be held on March 16, 2018 at 9:30 am in Conference Room 6 of the Clarion Resort Hotel in Ocean City, Maryland.

There being no further business, the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Membership was adjourned at 5:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruie Marie Lavoie
Secretary

Approved on this 21st day of May, 2019.