The District of Columbia Board of Elections ("the Board") held its Regular Monthly Meeting on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 in the Board’s Hearing Room, located in Suite 280 North, One Judiciary Square, 441 4th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Board’s Chairman, Deborah K. Nichols, was present, as were Board Members Stephen Danzansky and Dionna Lewis. Also present on the dais were Kenneth McGhie, the Board’s General Counsel, Cecily Collier-Montgomery, the Director of the Office of Campaign Finance ("OCF"), and Terri Stroud, the Board’s Acting Executive Director.

Chairman Nichols called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

The meeting agenda was approved and adopted.

The minutes of the last regular meeting on January 6, 2016 were moved for approval and adopted without objection.

Ms. Stroud reported on the Board’s preparations for the June 14, 2016 Primary Election. Candidates began picking up nominating petitions for ballot access on January 22, 2016. To date, 24 candidates have picked up nominating petitions, and their names are posted on the Board’s website in the Newsroom section and updated daily. February 16th is the last day to submit a petition in support of an initiative measure for the primary. February 22nd is the first day that any nominating petition may be filed. March 16th is the deadline for filing nominating petitions for all candidates.

There are 438,373 voters registered in the District as of January 31st. Based upon information received from EIRC, the Electronic Registration Information Center, the Board mailed notices to 13,650 individuals who appear to be registered both in the District and another jurisdiction. The Board asked the voters to give information about their voter registration status by no later than February 18th, 2016, in order to update the Board’s records.

Mr. McGhie presented the litigation status of cases involving the Board:

- Wingo v. D.C. Board of Elections involves a challenge to the Board’s formulation of the short title and summary statement for Initiative 76, the District of Columbia Minimum Wage Act. The Board filed a summary judgment motion on Friday October 9, the Plaintiff’s opposition was filed October 26, the Board’s reply was filed November 9, and the Plaintiff’s final reply was filed November 23. There was a status hearing on last Friday, January 29th, at which time the Judge ruled from the bench and the judge denied The Board’s and the intervener’s motions for summary judgment, and granted the plaintiff’s motion for summary judgment on the sole ground that the Board was not properly constituted because of a D.C. code statute that put a limitation of 180 days on the hold-over provisions for boards and commissions. The Board filed a motion to amend the judgment yesterday, and the Attorney General also filed a motion to intervene, and both of those motions are pending.
Ms. Collier-Montgomery announced the statistics for OCF as follows:

- During the month of January in the Office of the Campaign Finance, there were three reporting dates: the January 1st due date for the filing of Reports of Receipts and Expenditures for the Constituent Service Program and Statehood Fund Programs. There were 12 required Constituent Service Program filers and 3 Statehood Fund Programs filers, and they all timely filed. January 31st due date for the filing of Reports of Receipts and Expenditures for Principle Campaign Committee and Political Action Committees. There were 147 required filers; however, the reports were due February 1st because January 31st fell on a weekend. OCF is still in the process of collecting data with respect to timely filings and those who failed to file.

- Committees registered to participate in the 2016 election cycle during January include the following: Delmar 15 Chesley, Chesley for D.C. Council Ward 7, 1/4/16; Aaron Holmes, Holmes of Ward 8 1/14/2016; Robert Kabel, Kabel 2016, Republican National Committeeman, 1/21/2016; Walter Deleon, Deleon 2016 for At-large State Board of Education, 1/28/2016.

- OCF held three entrance conferences for new registrants in January.

- OCF Audit Branch conducted 30 desk reviews of financial reports that have been filed.

- The Periodic random audit of the continuing committee Morgan for D.C. is ongoing.

- The audit of Yvette Alexander Constituent Service Fund is ongoing.

- The ongoing full field audits of newly elected officials are as follows: LaRuby May 2015; Brandon Todd for Ward 4; Brianne for D.C.; and Elissa 2014.

- With respect to the investigative audit of Gray for Mayor, the audit report was issued on January the 29th, 2016 and is available at the OCF website for review.

Mr. Sanford presented the statistics from the Office of the General Counsel of OCF.

- The General Counsel received 5 referrals from the Reports Analysis and Audit Division.

- The Office completed 5 informal hearings and issued 4 orders including: two orders for failure to timely file reports in which no fines were imposed; one motion for reconsideration, in which no fine was imposed; and one motion for reconsideration, in which a fine against the committee Treasurer was vacated.

- OCF collected fees from the following respondents: $200 from Mark Jones, from the Mark Jones Reelect Committee for School Board; $200 from Beverly Wheeler, Beverly Wheeler for Ward 1; $250 from a Committee to Elect Ron Molten, a candidate for Ward 7; and $50 for the Latino Caucus.

- The OGC carried a total of seven open investigations and no new investigations were opened during the month.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.