GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY

MARCH 12, 2020

The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened a Regular Board Meeting in Suite 750, 1015 Half Street, S.E., Washington, D.C., 20003, pursuant to notice at 11:30 a.m., Michael Bennett, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

MICHAEL BENNETT, Chair
MICHAEL GILL, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

ALICE P. MILLER, Executive Director
LINDA JOHNSON, Assistant to the Executive Director
WILLIAM SANFORD, General Counsel of Office of Campaign Finance

TERRI D. STROUD, General Counsel
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(11:53 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay. It is 11:55 on March 12, 2020, and I call the meeting to order. I ascertain there’s a quorum.

Board Member Karen Greenfield is absent and will be absent during this meeting. Board Member Mike Gill to my immediate right is here. So, that represents two Board Members which is a quorum.

And I’m Michael Bennet, Chair of the Board and I’m here. Let me also introduce to my left is Ms. Alice Miller, Executive Director of the Board of Elections.

To my far right is Mr. William SanFord who is the general counsel of the Office of Campaign Finance and is sitting in for Director Cecily Montgomery today who is out ill. And to his left is Ms. Terri Stroud, General Counsel of the Board of Elections.

The first order of business is to adopt the agenda for the day. And also, I’d like
to at the same time adopt the minutes from the
meeting, from the February meeting. So, can I
get a motion from Mr. Gill?

MEMBER GILL: I move to adopt today's
agenda and the meeting minutes from February 5th.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay, it's been
properly moved, I second. And having second
unless there is a nay both are approved
unanimously.

Can you hear us okay, to the reporter?
Are you able to hear us okay? Great, thank you.

Any Board matters, Mr. Gill?

MEMBER GILL: No Board matters, thank
you.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay, great. None
from me today. The Office of Campaign Finance
report will be provided by Mr. William SanFord.

MR. SANFORD: Good morning, Mr.
Chairman and distinguished Board Member Michael
Gill. My name is William SanFord. As you know,
I am sitting in for our Director Cecily Collier-
On February 5, 2020, the Office of Campaign Finance provided testimony on the Fiscal Year '19 performance report and the Fiscal Year '19 performance plan during a performance hearing before the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety before the Council of the District of Columbia.

In addition, the Fair Elections Program fact sheet for the Ward 2 June 16th special election was published on the OCF website on January 27th. OCF 2020 scheduled a training seminar was published at the OCF website on January 30, 2020.

A list of candidates in the Fair Elections Program was published at the OCF website on January 31st. February 20th Fair Elections Program Committee convened to discuss the recommendations that the Committee had made going forward.

And on March 9, 2020, candidates of the Fair Elections Program and the Traditional

Montgomery.
Campaign Finance Program candidates were published at the OCF website.

In terms of community outreach, the community outreach for the month of February 2020 for the Fair Elections Program consisted of visits to five ANC community meetings which included ANC 8A on February 5, 2020; ANC 4C on February 12, 2020; ANC 3F on February 18, 2020; ANC 2A on February 19, 2020 and ANC 7B on February 20, 2020.

In February a total of 43 candidates were registered in the Fair Elections Program and there was one withdrawal leaving a total of 42 candidates. Three new candidates registered in February.

They included the following individuals. Nate Brown 2020, At-Large Council Member registered on February 4, 2020. Will Merrifield, D.C. At-Large Council Member registered on February 12, 2020.

And Monica Palacio for City Council At-Large registered on February 12, 2020. The
following candidates were sent forward in the Fair Elections Program in February.

Friends of Christina Henderson,


For the special election, Jordan Grossman was certified for Ward 2 special election on February 18, 2020. And Kishan Putta was certified for the Ward 2 special election on February 25, 2020.

In total a sum of $450,888.05 was distributed in various amounts and matching payments during February of 2020 under the Fair Elections Program. And the specifics regarding the individual distributions are posted at the OCF website.

The Fair Elections Program conducted a total of 38 desk reviews in February, issued private requests for additional information and
issued one referral to the Office of the General Counsel.

On June 2nd, the June 2, 2020, primary election included 19 candidates registered under the Fair Elections Program, nine of which were certified as participating candidates.

The June 16, 2020, special election included six candidates registered under the Fair Elections Program, two of which were certified as participating candidates.

The November 3, 2020, special election includes 17 candidates registered in the Fair Elections Program. Three candidates are certified as participating candidates.

As of February 29, 2020, a total sum of $1,193,812.70 has been distributed or disbursed in various amounts and matching payments to 15 candidates certified under the Fair Elections Program.

And upon looking at the Records Management Division there is one legal defense fund which was recorded prior. It was reported
and that fund did file its report timely.

The principal campaign committees and PACs which were required to file their reports on January 31st, totaled 134 recorded filers, 117 timely filed and 17 were referred to the Office of General Counsel for failure to timely file.

Under the Fair Elections Program a total of 38 recorded filers were required to file their reports on the 31st of January. Twenty-eight timely filed, ten failed to timely file their reports and those ten were referred to the Office of the General Counsel.

There were three independent expenditure directives that were required to file their reports on January 31st and all three timely filed their reports. All three filed their reports electronically.

There were seven initiative referendum committees that were required to file their reports on January 31st. Four timely filed, three were referred to the Office of the General Counsel for failure to timely file their reports.
There was one report collecting that was required to file its report on January 31st. That committee did timely file.

Under new candidates in the Fair Elections Program there were a total of six new candidates. They include the following individuals.


Nate Brown, Nate Brown 2020 At-Large City Council. Will Merrifield, Will Merrifield, D.C. At-large City Council and Monica Palacio for City Council At-Large was the final candidate in the Fair Elections Program.

Under the Judicial Program there were nine new registrants. They include the following individuals. Dorothy Douglas, candidate for U.S. Senate.

Milton Hardy, candidate for Ward 7 Chairman of D.C. Republican Party. Travis Korson, candidate for Ward 6, Chairman of the
D.C. Republican Party.

Asar Mustafa, candidate At-Large City Council. Donald Green, candidate U.S. Representative. Brook Pinto, Brook Pinto for Ward 2 City Council. Brook Pinto, Brook Pinto for Ward 2 City Council special election.

Eleanor Ory, Committee to Elect Ory for Senate. And Frederick Hill, Fred Hill for Ward 8 City Council.

There were two new initiative committees that were registered in February. And they include Community Health and Safety Campaign and U.S. Citizens Recovery Initiative Alliance Incorporated.

During the month of February the Office of Campaign Finance conducted two entrance conferences. The first was conducted on the 12th of February in 2020. There were nine participants.

And the second conference was conducted on the 26th of February and there were 11 participants. The information regarding the
individual participants will be posted at the OCF website.

During the month of February the Reports Analysis and Audit Division conducted 40 desk reviews and issued 23 audit letters and made two referrals to the Office of the General Counsel.

There were two ongoing Full Field Audits. They included DC Legal Defense Fund for Jack Evans. The audit notification letter was issued on February 18, 2020.

There were random periodic audits of candidates in the upcoming 2020 election. The candidates who were audited include the Re-elect Brandon Todd 2020 campaign. That was initiated on September 4, 2019.

Friends of Robert White; Veda for Ward 7; Richard Campbell, Ward 8 City Council; and Committee to Elect Rogers for Council. The audit notification letters on the last few candidates and committees were issued on February 10th.

Periodic random audit of political
action committees based upon the January 31st audit were issued to Verizon Communications Inc. Good Government Club PAC; DC Libertarian Party, Firefighter's Committee on Political Activities and the Greater Washington Board of Trade.

And those audit notification letters were issued on February 10, 2020. During the month of February 2020, the Office of the General Counsel received 34 referrals from 22 hearings and issued 22 orders which included the following.

Four orders were issued for failure to timely file reports in which the fines were suspended. Seventeen orders were issued for failure to timely file a report in which a total of $28,150 in fines were imposed. A Board Order was issued vacating the referral.

During the month of February 2020 the Office of the General Counsel imposed a total of $28,150 in fines against the following respondents. Friends of Courtney Snowden, a fine of $2,250 was imposed.
Carter At-Large a fine of $1,850 was imposed. Melik At-Large a fine of $1,850 was imposed. Justin Green At-Large a fine of $1,850 was imposed.

Lannette Woodruff, School Board a fine of $250 was imposed. Committee to Elect Natalie Williams a fine of $1,850 was imposed. Seniors United PAC a fine of $450 was imposed.

Money Supply Increase a fine of $1,800 was imposed. D.C. Recovery Act a fine of $1,800 was imposed. D.C. Choice a fine of $2,000 was imposed.

Holmes for D.C. a fine of $1,900 was imposed. Committee to Elect Professor Alpha Bah a fine of $1,900 was imposed. Toliver for Ward 8 a fine of $1,900 was imposed.

Committee to Elect Shawn Patterson a fine of $1,900 was imposed. Committee to Elect Khalid Pitts a fine of $1,900 was imposed.

Dustin Canter for DC Mayor a fine of $1,900 was imposed. And Nate Brown for Ward 8 a fine of $1,000 was imposed.
During the month of February the Office of Campaign Finance collected a $100 fine from Gayle Carley for Ward 5 in accordance with an installment payment plan that had been reached with that, Carley in the 2018 election.

During the month of February the Office of the General Counsel received one request for an investigation. The complainant was the Committee to hold Jack Evans accountable, Adam Eidinger, Chairman that was received on February 3, 2020.

The respondent is the DC Legal Defense Committee for Jack Evans. The allegation is the unlawful use of legal defense committee, of a legal defense committee. That matter was referred to the Reports Analysis and Audit Division.

During the month of February there were no reports for interpretative opinions and no show cause proceedings were conducted. And that should conclude my report.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Thank you, Mr.
SanFord. Any questions, Mr. Gill?

MEMBER GILL: No. No questions.

Thanks, Bill. I guess, one way to look at this
is we have a lot of interest in running for
office which we should be happy about.

I know candidates and their treasurers
are required to take classes about the system
before they are allowed to file. So, everyone
knew this was coming.

I guess I'm just observing that's a
lot of fines and a lot of folks not paying
attention to everything.

MR. SANFORD: Each order indicates if
the respondent attended the training and
certified that they would comply with the rules
of the Office of Campaign Finance.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay. The only
other thing, I don't have any questions.

But at the April meeting what I would
like to do in regards to the Fair Elections
Program is to have some level of report with,
regarding the debate process that we're
responsible for and where we are and what, since
that's a new process and a new program
responsibility that the Office of Campaign
Finance had in April we should report on where we
are with that.

I think there will at least be one or
so debates that we're required to provide. And
if there are none that we are required to provide
we need to report that as well.

MR. SANFORD: I will provide that
information at the next Board meeting.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Yes, that would be
fine, yes. I understand we're still in the
planning process as it relates to that. But I
just wanted to give everybody a heads up.

Next on the agenda is the Executive
Director, Ms. Miller.

MS. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
First item under my agenda you see we have some
polling place final relocations and I think a
couple temporary moves.

Mr. Arlin Budoo, our facility
operations manager will put these on the record for the Board and ask for the Board's approval on these polling site locations.

MR. BUDO: Good morning.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Good morning.

MR. BUDO: My name is Arlin Budoo, for the Board of Elections. First, I would like to start with Precinct Number 29. I am proposing that we relocate to the Second District Police Station.

It was not available for the 2018 primary and general election due to scheduled renovations. We then moved to the Washington Hebrew Congregation located at 3935 Macomb Street NW.

The renovations have been completed at the Second District Police Station and we are recommending that we relocate that back to the Second District Police Station located at 3320 Idaho Avenue NW.

I want to make a note that the Washington Hebrew Congregation was not available
for the scheduled primary actually due to other
events that they have scheduled at that location.

So, therefore I propose that we
relocate to the Second District Police Station at
3320 Idaho Avenue and we will be using the
community room. The facility is accessible.

There is street parking and the voting
space is good. It is approximately two blocks
from the previous polling place.

The next precinct is Precinct Number
58. As you are aware, Ward 6 Council Member,
Charles Allen voiced concern of the use of
Metropolitan Police Department precincts as
polling places.

The folks at the police station are
located at 6001 Georgia Avenue. We would now
relocate, I would now propose that we relocate to
the Emery Heights Community Center located at
5701 Georgia Avenue.

We currently use Emery Heights
Community Center as an early voting center. The
site is accessible. We will be using the
There is a parking lot and off the street parking at the location as well. And it's approximately three blocks from the current polling place.

The next precinct is Precinct Number 89. This was presented to the Board in December of 2019. And we put it on the table until the renovations have been completed at the current site.

We currently are sharing space with Precinct Number 88 at Eastern Market. And as you are aware, there was a large crowd during the last general election in 2018.

We will ask to relocate either Precinct 88 or Precinct 89. Go to Precinct 89 attorney, Ms. Terrica Jennings at which time she was able to do a survey.

At the time that we went for the survey there is a door within the facility that has what is called a panic push door where it extends out. So, it does deem the site
inaccessible.

But I am in negotiations with the site to have that door, that panic push button removed from that door.

So, therefore I am asking that we do approve the relocation from Precinct 89 from Eastern market to the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church located at 421 Seward Square, SE. And we will be using the fellowship hall.

And the next precinct is Precinct 105 which is at Benning Park Recreational Center which served as a polling place for the 2018 general election. This site will not be available for the 2020 presidential primary election.

The Board of Elections was informed that the facility is scheduled to undergo extensive renovations which are scheduled to be completed around September of '21.

This was necessary a temporary move until the renovations are completed at Harris Elementary School which is the normal polling
place that serves Precinct 105.

Therefore, I am proposing that we relocate to St. John Baptist Church located at 5228 Call Place, SE. We will be using the fellowship hall there.

Ms. Jennings was able to survey this polling place as well. It does meet the Board's requirements. The voting area we'll be using is the fellowship hall.

The voting space is excellent. The lighting is excellent and there is street parking. It is approximately six blocks from the current polling place.

And lastly, the newly formed Precinct 144 was approved by the Council after an emergency resolution was submitted. On the Board's behalf I worked with Council Member Charles Allen.

Even though we began negotiations with the Hilton Garden Inn we were approved to use the site. But upper management denied us the use of the site.
So, therefore I have to find an alternative location. I have identified and received approval from the pastor. This location would serve as a temporary polling place because it is actually outside of the newly formed boundaries.

Once the renovations are completed at Capitol Hill Montessori School we will relocate to that school which is also a DCPS site. Therefore, I am proposing that we establish the newly formed precinct at Mt. Airy Baptist Church located at 1100 North Capitol Street, NW.

The site is accessible. We will be using the fellowship hall. The voting space is excellent and there is street parking at this site.

MS. MILLER: How far outside the boundaries is it?

MR. BUDOO: It's across the street.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Is there -- and I've got questions about most of them. I'll start at the end. I'm sorry, was that if you don't mind,
okay.

With regard to the last one where you are relocating to Mr. Airy Baptist Church. Is there another polling, is Capitol Hill Montessori currently a polling place or --

MR. BUDOO: No, sir.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: So, there is nothing there, nothing else is going in there, right?

MR. BUDOO: Nobody is in there.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay. And Mt. Airy Baptist Church is just across the street from --

MR. BUDOO: Yes. The boundary is North Capitol Street. So, it's just on the other side of North Capitol.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: And how far would, let's say the furthest person who would vote in that area, how far would they have to go?

MR. BUDOO: Approximately, I would say seven or eight blocks because we redrew the boundaries for a precinct. When we redrew the boundaries of 83.

So, everything north is closer for
them as opposed to having to go all the way up to Precinct 83.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: It's a little bit, it's just across the street.

MR. BUDOO: It's still within a close proximity for the newly formed presence and the newly formed precinct. Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: All right. Back to the first one. So, the one going from Washington Hebrew Congregation to Second District Police Station.

MR. BUDOO: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Was Councilman Allen only concerned about the police station in his ward or all police stations?

MR. BUDOO: He was concerned about all police stations. With the Washington Hebrew Congregation with the scheduling of their primary they were not available for the primary because it, you know, as we discussed before the dates keep changing.

So, they had a previous scheduled
event going on. That site was not available.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: So, this is just for
the primary or this is going to be throughout the
year?

MR. BUDOO: Well, I was going to do
this throughout the year because I don't, would
not like to change precincts within an election
cycle.

So, what we would do is we would go
back to the Second District for the 2020
elections and then --

CHAIRMAN BENNET: In 2022 --

MR. BUDOO: Right. And then in 2022
I can negotiate with the Congregation and request
that we relocate back.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay, police
station. Mr. Gill, you had a question?

MEMBER GILL: No. I was just -- you
do such a great job. Keeping all these things on
track and I love your write ups where you, you
know, acknowledge some of the concerns and such.

I will just say that, you know,
Arlin's job is to look at the statute for ADA and accessibility and such like. And to the extent that you can accommodate community concerns and convenience, I think you always do a great job.

And so, I appreciate that this timing had nothing to do with you. For people that are kind enough to offer their facilities sometimes they're not available.

And so, you know, I think as long as it meets the statute and all the requirements we're supposed to care about unless they change the statute that's the first priority.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Let me flip over to, okay. So, the next one to me is, I have a little concern about moving it to that police station.

But the next one is going from 4D police station over to Emery Heights Community Center. And that's going to be permanent, right?

MR. BUDOO: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay. And that 4D is parking that's going to be no problem. Okay.

So, flip over to the next one, Eastern Market.
MR. BUDO: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: So, this is actually splitting because Eastern Market has two --

MR. BUDO: Has two precincts. It has Precinct 88 and Precinct 89.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: And is this, this is splitting those up?

MR. BUDO: We're just going to establish in Precinct 89. They were just sharing the location with Eastern Market.

So, now Precinct 88 will remain at Eastern Market and Precinct 89 will go to the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: And assuming you get that issued right away.

MR. BUDO: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay. Ms. Tanning, I assume is working that vigorously.

MR. BUDO: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: I'm looking for it now.

MS. TANNING: Yes. I sent him the
requirements for the statute.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay, okay. Thanks.

All right. So, let me do this. I'd like to get
a motion from Mr. Gill to approve.

However, though what I'd like to do
is, and I agree with Mr. Gill you do an amazing
job with this so don't take this as a hit at what
you do. But what I would like is to make sure
that you don't have any other alternative other
than that police precinct.

And so, what I'm going to ask you to
do is to double check. I'm going to ask Mr. Gill
to give me a motion to approve them all today.

MR. BUDOO: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: But I'm going to ask
you to double check. And if indeed you're able
to find something other than a police station
then I'll ask you to come back to us next month.

I trust that you've done your due
diligence and done everything that you could
possible trying to avoid police stations. And
this is your only, I'm just asking you to take
one more look at it.

MR. BUDOO: No problem.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay. Ms. Miller, does that work for you?

MS. MILLER: Yes.

MEMBER GILL: So, we have two finals and three proposed?

CHAIRMAN BENNET: No, no. We have -- all of these I'm asking to approve them all. And I'm asking Mr. Budoo with that approval that if he would just double check, triple check, quadruple check to make sure that the police station is our -- I'm assuming you've done that.

MR. BUDOO: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: But I just want to make sure for the record that we have done everything that we can to avoid a police station because I agree with Councilmember Allen that if we can avoid those than we're better off.

They do have a lot of things to do at their station. So, can I get a motion, Mr. Gill, to approve?
MEMBER GILL: Yes. So, a motion to approve the polling place relocations as proposed on today's agenda.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: It's been properly moved. I second and let's take a formal vote. Mr. Gill?

MEMBER GILL: Aye.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: And I vote aye as well. Thank you, Mr. Budoo.

MR. BUDOO: Thank you.

MS. MILLER: Thank you. The next thing I would like to do is to begin by addressing the issue that arose last month regarding registration cards to voters and the information that was contained on the document reflecting the time of the general election as the third Tuesday in June.

So, I happen to have some of those old ones if you want to see what they are. The first sentence on that card does read the primary election is held on the third Tuesday in June.

And really the frame of reference is
that the third Tuesday in June for this year's primary was incorrect. We know that the 2020 primary will be conducted June 2nd and that's the first Tuesday in June.

The form, as you can see, is a generic form. It has boilerplate language on it and a lot of other generic information regarding the election process which should have been caught and corrected. People have said that.

Obviously it wasn't and therefore the confusion over inattention to a mistake. And that's what it was. It was a mistake.

We stand corrected. The new information and registration card which is going out now clearly reads at the top of it, it says that 2020 election schedule for the District of Columbia's primary election and presidential election will be held June 2, 2020, the first Tuesday in June.

The general election will held on November 3, 2020, the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. And a special election
to fill a vacancy in the office of Ward 2 Council Member will be held on Tuesday, June 16th.

So, this one is specific to the 2020 elections. And this is the card that's currently being mailed out. We received them, I think like last week. They started going out this week.

And all those who received the old one will get this one as well as going forward. I just want to talk a little bit about history with respect to the primary election.

The date of the primary election has been ever changing for a number of years. We've gone from two primary elections to combining the presidential and local primary election date from 2000 -- I'll just go back to 2000.

From 2000 and 2008 we conducted the local primary the second Tuesday in September. However, the presidential preference primary has been conducted the first Tuesday in January in 2004.

The presidential preference primary was conducted the second Tuesday in, I'm sorry,
the second Tuesday in January. Then it got changed in 2008. It was scheduled for the second Tuesday in February.

In 2012, we combined the local and the presidential preference primary and the election was conducted the first Tuesday in April. That date was consistent for the 2014 primary as well.

However, in 2016 the primary was scheduled to be conducted the second Tuesday in June. And then in 2018 we moved to the third Tuesday in June.

And now for the first time this year we're the first Tuesday in June. So, it's been a little bit of a roller coaster in terms of the dates of the primaries.

It's an ongoing change in the date. And therefore, it creates a lot of confusion and challenges on all parts with respect to even logistical locations and the dates as Arlin just put on the record.

We have to change locations when we don't have a consistent date for these elections
to be held. It also does go to some of our forms.

And I'm not trying to defend the fact that this should have been caught. But it is an issue that we need to address, that we need to work closely with the Council to see how we can resolve the challenges associated with the need to change the date of the primary to a consistent date.

Subsequent to the 2010, the date change was dictated by the federal requirements associated with the Military Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, the MOVE Act that mandates that overseas voters receive their general election ballot 45 days prior to the election.

And by having our general election, primary election in September there wasn't enough time to provide adequate time to conduct the election and solidify all the due process associated to certify the results and a have general election ballot to military and overseas voters within 45 days.
So, all that is to say is that we just need to work to establish a date for the primary election that will be consistent and permanent. It will eliminate confusion for the voters, retain consistency with the availability of our polling locations, especially the private facilities that we rely on and the need for stable scheduling along with other matters.

It is understandable that from time to time a change of date be warranted. The date of the District's primary has not been held on the same day since the first Tuesday in April of 2012 and that was again the same Tuesday in April of 2014.

So, we need to work to get this done and do better with this. Our voters deserve to have a date that's certain that they can rely on and hopefully we can come to some conclusion of what date the primary should be and make it consistent.

MEMBER GILL: This is, the card issue is on us. Thank you for owning up to it and --
MS. MILLER: It is.

MEMBER GILL: -- taking responsibility. The movable date is on our elected officials.

We try to adhere to their desires while there are rules for military ballots, there is just logistics of absentee ballots and such that make it difficult. So, that's not on us.

MS. MILLER: No. But again, we just need to work with Council and everyone involved to try to establish a firm date so that we can have the date so that everybody knows, especially our voters when the primary is going to occur every two years.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Miller.

MS. MILLER: Just moving on, the deadline to file nominating petitions for the June primary is June 2nd, for the June 2nd primary was Wednesday, March 4th. The list of the preliminarily qualified candidates is on our website.
We're in the process of now accepting
the, anyone who is challenging those petitions.
The challenge period will close on Monday, March
16th and the office is open every day including
the weekends during the challenge period.

With respect to the Ward 2 special
election, the deadline for filing nominating
petitions is next Wednesday, March 18th at 5
o'clock.

During the month of February the Board
of Education Outreach Division participated in a
total of 30 events all of which are listed on our
website.

Some of those events include
naturalization ceremonies, high school events,
the Office of Youth Programs, professional
development events, D.C. Retired Educations
Association, Founders Day Luncheon, Black History
Month activities.

And one of the other activities that
the Department, our Education Outreach Department
Division participated in was the Fair Government,
the GAO. The Government Accountability Office held a Black History Month popup museum which we were there for.

I will also put on the record because I know our General Counsel will not, that she was the keynote speaker for the GAO's government accountability Black History Month event on February 26th.

The topic of her speech was voting rights in the District of Columbia and the influence of Frederick Douglass. She did a commendable job.

The audience was very impressed with her presentation and generally a lot of interesting conversations. So, I think she deserves credit for that and recognition for doing it.

And as I said, it was very cool to see and she should be doing more of those things.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Thank you, Ms. Stroud.

MS. MILLER: We did have meetings
with our point of contact at Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and with the FBI as it relates to the security of our election process.

No need to go into any detail on the substance of those meetings. But I can guarantee you that we are definitely well protected from the federal landscape and our federal partners are there to support our needs for any of our election concerns that we may have.

Also, the 2019 grant funding has been voted into our financial system. That's $3 million.

We have to come up with the match, that's 20 percent, the $600,000 needs to be placed into our budget to be fully compliant for, we have the money available to us. So, that concludes my report.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Any questions, Mr. Gill?

MEMBER GILL: No questions, thank you.
CHAIRMAN BENNET: I just have one comment and that's to add to your, and I let you finish your report back to the voter's card issue and the matter that went out.

One of the things that I think we should do and my guess is just like me I received a new card when I got a new driver's license. I didn't read anything on the card other than getting my voter's card.

One of the things that we try to do and sometimes it comes back to bite us is we try to communicate too much information to voters at one time.

And it's probably a better idea just to eliminate that part of the information that goes out and just make sure that the voter gets only the information that is pertinent to their receiving the card.

So, it's probably best just to eliminate that and then communicate with voters separately when it comes to election days. So, anyway that's just a comment on that.
I didn't have any other comments. And I thank you for sharing Ms. Stroud's service and we do hope she does more of that.

MS. MILLER: Just on the card, I just want to piggyback. We intend to look at completely redesigning this. Obviously this is not a mailer that should be a resource for this kind of information that's on here.

There are other means for which voters or anyone can verify this information. It's abbreviated and really not the source that should be used.

So, after 2020 this one was specific to the 2020 elections. So, I've been told by a number of people on my staff that after November this will be burned just to make sure that they do not go out.

But we will in the meantime redesign it so that it is just the card itself.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Great, thank you.

MS. MILLER: You'll see it on the card.
CHAIRMAN BENNET: Excellent. And we have received your report. Thank you, Ms. Miller.

Next on the agenda, Ms. Stroud, General Counsel's report.

MS. STROUD: Okay. Good afternoon, everyone. So, the first item on my agenda is the issuance of petitions for the Entheogenic Plant and Fungus Policy Act of 2020.

I understand that there is a request that would like to be made of the Board with respect to the issuance of that petition.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Good afternoon. Thank you for your patience in waiting.

MS. LAVASANI: Do I have a couple of minutes to make a statement?

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Sure, please.

MS. LAVASANI: Good afternoon.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Good afternoon.

MS. LAVASANI: I'd like to take a moment to address the elephant in the room.

This, today is quite bittersweet for me. I'm --
CHAIRMAN BENNET: I'm sorry, let me stop you. Just for the record, provide your name and address. I'm sorry.

MS. LAVASANI: Melissa Lavasani, 901 Ninth Street, NE, Washington DC 20002. Okay.

I'm elated that we've made it through this process this far. And we really appreciate the work that the Board has put into this initiative and how helpful you have been. We have had no opposition since our order here to get our petitions.

And the public reaction has been extremely positive. I've had mothers reach out to me. I've had high powered executives reach out to me thanking me for putting this issue into the public.

And we are excited to get started.

However, the coronavirus has really thrown a wrench in our entire campaign. We're ready to hit the ground running.

However, I can't in good faith send my campaign staff and our wonderful group of
volunteers out into the public to have conversations about entheogenic plants and fungi.

Unfortunately, more and more pandemics and natural disasters and major climate events have become commonplace in our society and we need to be able to adapt to these issues as they arise.

We have already seen the deterioration in the rule of law at the national level. Now more than ever our local jurisdictions like ours have a duty to uphold the foundation of our democracy.

Like all pandemics, this will end. Everyone will go back to work at some point and go back to school. The economy will recover somehow.

But we will still be facing a mental health crisis. And I would even argue that the mental health crisis will be even worse than it was before this.

So, we're asking you today for help to keep this process as fair as possible given the
current pandemic. We're asking that the Board of Elections holds our petitions for one month until we see how COVID-19 affects the city.

We are putting our campaign on hold and we will not be going out and gathering signatures for these petitions because we believe that's a really irresponsible thing to do in the face of a public health crisis.

So, this effort is to just have a short term fix for this much bigger issue. But we appreciate your input on this.

MS. STROUD: Thank you, Ms. Lavasani. There is no legal barrier for -- with respect to us holding your petitions. You've already met the requirements.

And I will just put on the record the progress that's been made thus far with respect to your ballot measure. On Tuesday, February 28th the Board formulated the language for the initiative which was approved as a proper subject on February 5th.

The formulations were published in the
D.C. Register on Friday, February 28th for a ten
day review period during which any registered
voter could challenge the Board's formulation in
the DC Superior Court.

The review period ended on Monday,
this past Monday, March 9, 2020. No challenges
were filed. Accordingly, the Board's
formulations were deemed accepted at that point.

And so, we are standing at a juncture
at which we could issue the petitions. But there
is nothing in the law that provides that we have
to do so within a certain time frame.

And so, assuming the Board takes
action with respect to your request there is no
legal barrier for the request that you're making
of the Board.

MS. LAVASANI: Okay, thank you.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Did you have
anything, Mr. Eidinger?

MR. EIDINGER: Yes. My name is Adam
Eidinger and I'm the treasurer of the campaign to
Decriminalize Nature DC.
And I just want to note that we had sent a letter on March 3rd to the entire DC Council and the Mayor essentially raising our concerns about paper petitioning and that we would potentially interact with a quarter million people over the course of three months doing this signature collection of upwards of 30,000 signatures because we do have to get a surplus for the five wards and the five percent in five wards.

I want to note that the City of Boulder has already passed a law allowing online petition signing. I think it’s something that we really should be exploring maybe in the coming months.

I realize that it isn’t possible for this Board to create this out of thin air. You would need an act from the Council and the Mayor.

But we do think you could send a communication to the Council and Mayor that you would like them to at least authorize the exploration of possible alternative ways to
signing petitions.

I also want to note that, you know, the concerns about fraud and testing the system are real. However, I believe paper petitioning opens itself up to fraud currently.

And the best, you know, example of this is that if someone signs my name on a petition the only way I know that was done is if I go down to the Board, purchase the petitions and literally look through 25,000 or 30,000 lines to find my name.

And only then can I say, I didn't sign this, someone else did. Whereas, if you had online signing you could send a letter to people who once they create like an online user ID just like we do for banking or something else.

And they would get a letter in the mail saying you have signed. And if you didn't, please let us know. And we could have a public list.

This is public information who signs a petition. You can have the petitioning all
public. Now, I know all of this is in the
future.

It's not going to affect us right now.

But, you know, this decision was really hard for
us.

We have trained 50 people at this
point to collect signatures and we are really
concerned about their safety, the public safety.

But knowing all this, where is the, you know,
policy adjusting?

And we have so far not received any
response from the Council or the Mayor. We have
been actively calling. I notice they're busy
now.

But to us this is really important and
to this Board it should be really important. So,
I'm asking the Board if you would actually go one
step further and consider notifying the Council
that you're interested in this, you would at
least like to look at it.

That might help move this along.

Thank you.
CHAIRMAN BENNET: The answer is, yes, we will. What I'd like for you to do is if you could, because we're in the process of looking at how do we address this not just from a petition perspective but for elections we've got, you know, the elections coming up, primaries coming up, special election coming up, general elections coming up.

And this issue doesn't look like it's going anywhere in the near future. So, it would be great.

And we actually, we're going to put together some options that we want to, that one, we can take ourselves not just with petitions but with elections as well and make sure that the Mayor and the Council are aware of that.

But also, some options that we need their help relative to legislation to be able to do. So, I request, recommend if you get some good ideas please put them in writing and provide them to Ms. Stroud and we will, you know, kind of move from there.
But the other thing I wanted to,
before I get a motion is I'm going to ask Mr. Gill to give us a motion too.

I'm not sure we need one but I want to make sure officially we agree to hold your, the issuance of that petition for a month, I think is what you're asking for.

MS. LAVASANI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: But the other thing that I wanted to note is that we don't have the option to push your back end out relative to the amount of time that you have to get the petition by law.

And so, if that time frame needs to be pushed out the Council would, they would have to legislate that. But that also creates other problems in that we've got the time we need in order to, you know, get ballots ready for the general as well.

So, on one hand I say, you know, it would be great to push your back end out. On the other hand, you know, because the election is
what it is it creates -- it puts us in a real bind to be able to get things ready.

So, with that I just want to say that before I ask Mr. Gill for a motion that you're back end is still, was it July, I believe it is.

MS. STROUD: Well, it's July for the November general election.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Right.

MS. STROUD: But depending on what you get. If you had gotten the petition today you would have had until, I believe, September 8th to submit your petition.

That would have given you the 180 days. But, yes, if you were trying to seek ballot access for November it would be July.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Yes. So, I just want to make sure that in terms of full disclosure -- and I don't think we can necessarily resolve that issue at this moment right now.

But I just want to make sure. I'm sure that Ms. Stroud has told you before, I
wanted to make sure that it came from the Board that, you know, where your back end cut offs are. And I'm guessing that you may want to address those issues at a later point. I wanted to make that clear. So, Mr. Gill, do you have anything further?

MEMBER GILL: No. I fully support this. I'm sure this was a really tough decision. But I think you're making the right decision for at least a month.

MS. LAVASANI: Yes.

MEMBER GILL: I completely agree with paper ballot, the paper signature process I've never liked that. There has to be an electronic, digital answer to this.

And so, we've got a crisis. Maybe we can use it for that opportunity.

MS. LAVASANI: Yes. We realize we're asking for a pretty big lift here. But it's a major health crisis that if we don't continue making it out of hand and, you know, this is the only path forward for us.
CHAIRMAN BENNET: Yes, the -- just to
be clear also our next meeting is April 1st. So,
what I'll do is I will ask for a motion to
postpone the issuance until our next meeting.

If you guys want to go past that, I'll
ask you to work with Ms. Stroud to make sure that
occurs. But I ask for a motion to postpone the
issuance until our April meeting which is April
1st.

And that's only three weeks away.

But, okay.

MEMBER GILL: So, motion to postpone
the issuance of petitions for the Entheogenic
Plant and Fungus Policy Act of 2020. And we will
revisit in the April 1st.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay. Motion has
been properly made and properly moved. I second.
I think we should take a vote. Mr. Gill?

MEMBER GILL: Aye.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: And I approve as
well. So, thank you both. And we look forward
to moving forward.
Mr. Eidinger, just for the record I
don't recognize you without that hat. Thank you.
Ms. Stroud.

MS. STROUD: Yes. So, the next item
on my agenda is the Emergency and Proposed
Rulemaking to Amend Title 3 of the DC Municipal
Regulations, Chapter 7 which is the, excuse me,
the election procedures chapter in the Board's
regulations.

The purpose of the amendments to
Chapter 7 are to establish a deadline for the
receipt of absentee ballots, eliminate the
writing requirement with respect to requests for
polling place reassignment and clarify that the,
that cameras may be used in voting and counting
locations as long as they do not disrupt or
interfere with the election administration
process during early voting, on election day and
during vote tabulation.

The new deadline for the receipt of
electronically transmitted voting ballots
submitted by military and overseas voters is 8:00
p.m. on election day. And the deadline for receipt of mailed voting ballots is the second day after election day.

And such mailed ballots must have been sent on or before election day. And that change was made due to the enactment of the Primary Date Alteration Amendment Act of 2019.

Other provisions of the rulemaking would remove the writing requirement for a requests for polling place reassignments submitted by our senior voters and our voters with disabilities. They would now be able to contact us orally and we would process those requests.

Finally, the last provision of the rulemaking clarifies that cameras may be used inside of counting locations as long as they don't interfere with the election and administration process.

We would like to have these amendments in place for the June primary election hence the emergency action today. And when Mr. Gill
returns I will ask that the Board entertain a
motion to approve the emergency and proposed
rulemaking for publication in the DC Register at
which point they will become effective.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Can you please go
ahead and do the --

MS. STROUD: Sure, litigation status,
okay.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: -- other items, yes.
And we'll table that for a second until Mr. Gill
comes back in.

MS. STROUD: So, the next item on my
agenda is litigation status. The first matter
that I'll discuss is Hunt v. Miller. This was a
matter concerning the counting of write in votes
cast in the November 2018 general election.

The plaintiff had asked that the
Board give an itemized accounting of the votes
cast in the write in contest. But the Board was
not required to do that because the number of
votes cast by write ins were not sufficient to
overcome the amount of the actual winner of the
contest.

The Board filed a Motion to Dismiss on Wednesday, April 24, 2019. And the court granted the Board's Motion to Dismiss on March 10th.

The second case is Butler v. Board of Elections. This matter was an action for, in the nature of a motion to compel the Board to accept the DC term limits campaign to the proper subject.

The Board filed a Motion for Summary Judgment in November of 2019. And the court actually granted the Board's Motion to Dismiss on January 15th.

But the court docket wasn't updated to reflect that judgment and the court never sent the Board a copy. But that judgment was entered on January 15, 2020.

So, those two cases have been disposed of. And I'd like to acknowledge our senior staff attorney Rudolph McGann for his work in both of those cases.

And did you want me to finish the
litigation status and --

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Yes, please go ahead and finish the litigation status.

MS. STROUD: Absolutely, no problem.

So, the next case is Graham v. Board of Elections.

This was an appeal of, the Board's appeal of a permanent injunction entered by the DC Superior Court preventing the Board from taking action on the Referendum 8 petition. All pleadings in this matter have been filed and a date for oral argument has been set for April 21, 2020.

The next matter is Hammond v. the DC Board of Elections. This case is consolidated with Robin Marlin v. DC Board of Elections.

Both cases involve appeals from Board orders upholding the resolution of, resolutions of ANC 7B finding no vacancy and the affected single member District seats on the basis that the incumbents did not meet the burden for that or that the plaintiffs did not meet the burden of
proving that the incumbents in these matters did not meet the residency qualification necessary to serve as ANC commissioners in those single member districts.

All pleadings will, the plaintiffs have filed their brief. The petitioners have filed their brief in the matter, these matters on December 16, 2019. And they filed their appendix on March 4th.

And we will file our response on or before April 3rd. And that concludes the litigation status.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Thank you. We tabled the emergency resolution, so you want to go back to that?

MS. STROUD: No worries. So, I'd like a motion for the Board to approve the Emergency and Proposed Rulemaking for publication in the DC Register at which point they will become effective.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: And this is for the --
MS. STROUD: The amendments to Chapter 7 election procedures, the election procedures chapter of the Board's regulations set forth in Title 3 DCMR.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Thank you.

MEMBER GILL: So, before I make a motion so this, just the idea more and more folks are being involved in elections and such, people that bring a camera in under the election observer status or even just someone from the general public they still can't wear campaign propaganda?

MS. STROUD: No, they cannot.

MEMBER GILL: So, they just, right.

MS. STROUD: And we have issued guidelines for the media and poll watchers and election observers that are provided to the media and election observers and poll watchers indicating what activity is allowed within the polling places.

MEMBER GILL: I make a motion to adopt the Emergency and Proposed Rulemaking referenced
in today's agenda.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: It's been properly moved. I second. And so, just for the record let's take a vote. Mr. Gill?

MEMBER GILL: Aye.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: And aye as well. So, the proposed emergency rulemaking is approved by the Board. Ms. Stroud, any other matters?

MS. STROUD: No. That concludes my report.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Okay, great. Do we have anyone here that wishes to provide any comments to the Board? Do we have anybody on the line?

Okay, is that Mr. Sindram? We are -- I think we've got you now, Mr. Sindram. Would you please go ahead.

MR. SINDRAM: Michael Sindram, disabled veteran. Served our country more than most. Can you hear me now, Mr. Chair?

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Yes, we can.

MR. SINDRAM: Okay. Ms. Miller, I
have a question for you. The primary date again is when?

  MS. MILLER: The primary is June 2, 2020.

  MR. SINDRAM: June 2nd, so that's Tuesday, okay. I want to echo and piggyback your concern. We're creatures of habit, certainly I am.

  And when the dates keep switching it discombobulates my schedule and is most confusing. So, whatever you can do on your end and I'll do it on my end too with the Council to have a shored up date.

  And sad but true, we don't have an election in district. We have a primary date. The primary is the election. So, that's all the more crucial and critical to get that date correct and get it etched in stone, if you will.

  But anyway, so a permanent date that doesn't keep changing so it gets confusing. Then that in turn gives less of a voter turnout when people don't know what's going on or they figured
it was one day and it's not and so on.

So, we need to get the Council on

board and make it happen. And you guys, you

wanted to say something?

MS. MILLER: No, sorry.

MR. SINDRAM: Okay. And you carry
great weight, in the words of ANC standards, for
the Council to step up.

Okay. That having been said, Mr. Gill, we need an elephant in the room. I've
heard that more than once. And the paper ballot, while you may not be a fan of it, it does serve a
useful purpose.

For instance, I come in. I've made my
notations on the paper ballot and then I said, well, no I want to change my mind. And so, the
folks there were gracious enough to accommodate me. You can do that.

But we've got to give you another
ballot, okay. The problem is with digital I
don't know if that's possible to flip the script,
change if you will.
Once you put it out there can you retract it, rescind it, stricken whatever you want to call it unlike the paper ballot? I don't know if you want to weigh in at the moment on that. But that's a concern. Hello.

MEMBER GILL: Yes, we're here. Good comments.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: I was, to answer your question I was looking at this memo. I think his question is once you, and it's actually just a ballot marking machine.

Once you actually mark the ballot and it's not correct my assumption is the person is able to review it, let someone know and then redo the ballot. Is that correct?

MS. MILLER: That's correct.

MR. SINDRAM: That's my -- go ahead.

MS. MILLER: That's correct for the ballot marking device, yes.

MR. SINDRAM: What about the machine, the digital?

MS. MILLER: That's what we're
referring to. That is the machine. It's just a
formal, a reference to the formal machines. It
is known as the ballot marking device.

MEMBER GILL: So, that electronic
machine at the voting place is not, it doesn't
automatically register some central satellite and
come here.

That electronic machine simply marks
a paper ballot that we then collect like all the
other paper ballots and then bring to the vote
tabulations.

MS. MILLER: That's correct.

MEMBER GILL: Thank you.

MR. SINDRAM: Well, my question is
this. A paper ballot, I filled it out and then I
indicate down the road well I want to change it,
I want to amend it.

And so, the folks say fine, you can do
that. You've got to fill out an additional paper
ballot.

My question is, with the digital
system is that possible as well or once you make
a marking is that just gone and you can't change it or reverse?

MS. MILLER: It can be changed from the perspective that you have an opportunity to review everything that you voted prior to casting it.

The whole ballot comes up and you review each and every selection that you've made on the process.

MR. SINDRAM: Well, see the operative word is prior to. Now what about subsequent to?

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Well, the answer is to your question is, yes, because what happens on the electronic machine that's called a ballot marking machine is that it actually produces a piece of paper.

And so, when you review that piece of paper and that paper is incorrect or is different than what you would like then you would let someone know at the precinct that this piece of paper in your hand is incorrect that was produced by the machine.
And then they would in turn give you the ability, they would destroy that and then give you the ability to create another paper ballot.

MR. SINDRAM: Yes, paper ballot. But then for the electronic, same difference or no?

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Same difference. The electronic marking only, it produces a paper ballot. It doesn't send your vote somewhere just to a server or some database.

It just simply produces a paper ballot. So, you would say no, this is really not what I want. I want to change my mind. And you give that to a person working in the polling.

They would destroy it and then it took you back to the electronic, to the ballot marking machine again.

MR. SINDRAM: Thank you for your clarification, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Sure.

MR. SINDRAM: And I did receive from Ms. Jennings the Entheogenic Plant and Fungus
Policy Act of 2020 which I understand was deliberated somewhat today and that is going to be further discussed and possibly voted on and so on.

I have a concern. And my concern is this. I understand veterans came forward, if my memory serves me correctly about the usefulness of the psychoactive substances.

And the operative word is psychoactive. My concern is this. When you open a pandora's box for the mushrooms, okay, and it was indicated they're helpful, okay.

Well, then if you do it for one you do it for all. So, we'll just say with crack cocaine or heroin or, you know, poppies or on and on and on, where do we draw the line, number one?

Number two, the danger is okay, mushrooms as put forth by the passionate pleas and they tug at my heart string as they did at you all. But the danger is being psychoactive you use these things to alleviate pain but then you get in your car.
You get in an accident or some other mishap happens because you're not suited and in your right mind.

So, my point is that while an initiative that blanket covers to pass it I think there needs to be a more detailed fine print included saying that it needs to be clearly overseen by a healthcare provider and not just carte blanche where again, you know, things can happen and for them to discuss where they could have been avoided if you follow my train of thought.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Yes. Mr. Sindram, I appreciate the comment and it is on the record. And my suggestion is for that to be something that you, you know, bring back to the group that has the petition.

We, you know, don't control that aspect. But I think your concerns are some that should be known to the party that's putting the petition forward. So, we appreciate that.

MR. SINDRAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
And one final remark.

Ms. Stroud, General Counsel, with regard to the DC Court of Appeals I'm looking at DC Court of Appeals Rule 30(f) which reads in relevant part and I quote, "Appendix in In Forma Pauperis. No appendix is required in cases in which a party has been permitted to proceed in forma pauperis or counsel has been appointed to represent the party."

My point is this. Presumptively, you guys I don't know maybe I think with government you are granted waiver of pre-payment. But I in the court proceeding, IFP the rule clearly says I'm not required to file an appendix.

However, the court has come back and said well, you need to file your brief and limited appendix. And clearly the rule, again 30(f), check it out for yourself, says I am not required to do it.

And I just wanted to bring that to the forefront because I know you have pro se litigants that are required to make filings in
the DC Court. They make life inordinately
difficult.

Even though the law is to give,
indicates latitude and in fact it's well said
about Haines v. Kerner 404 US 519 1972, that
indicates that a pro se pleading, filing if you
will not to be held to a stringent requirement as
that of counsel.

But it seems like the court goes the
other way to make it harder for pro se folks.
And I don't have digital filing and everything
else.

I've got to go down, you know, after
hours and whatnot. And I might further add, all
right, sad but true and this is, you know,
something to evaluate.

But yet this is still inextricably
interwoven. I'm now forbidden in the courthouse
because the clerk took issue with me, doesn't
like me. So, during normal business hours I
can't even go into the building.

There is a bar notice courtesy of
Chief Judge Washington which I've never been able
to collaterally address or attack. So, I've got
to go after hours to make my filings.

Sometimes they have a clock there,
stamp it in, sometimes they don't. Sometimes the
clock works, sometimes they don't.

But my point is this, they make it
inordinately difficult for filing. So, maybe on
your end if you could put a bug in the ears, the
clerk and also Chief Judge Ann Blackburne-Rigsby
whose husband sits on the Superior Court, Robert
Rigsby to say hey, you know, you guys are
supposed to make it accommodating for folks and
it's just the opposite.

And you've got some input intel from
constituents stating it as such.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Thank you, Mr.
Sindram. We certainly appreciate all your
comments. But I do want to note that you're the
only person providing public matters today.

So, I kind of let you go a little
longer than I would normally. But we always
appreciate your interest and your -- so thank
you, Mr. Sindram.

MR. SINDRAM: I love you too, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: Thank you, Mr. Sindram.

MR. SINDRAM: Mr. Gill, we need an
elephant in the room.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: I'm gaining weight
to try and make sure that happens. Can I get a
motion for Mr. Gill to adjourn the meeting?

Thank you Mr. Sindram.

MEMBER GILL: Thank you, Mr. Sindram.

We have a Motion to Adjourn.

CHAIRMAN BENNET: The motion is
properly made and accepted. The meeting is
adjourned. Thank you.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
went off the record at 1:07 p.m.)
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months 48:6,15
morning 4:19 18:4,5
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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Board Meeting

Before: DC BOE

Date: 03-12-20

Place: Washington, DC

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

[Signature]

Court Reporter