

July 20, 2020

To: Stony Creek Association

From: Kathleen K. DaRos, Moderator

Everyone who worked with the Absentee Ballot Counting procedure was sworn in.

Tanya Greenvall, Dale Atkinson, Penny Bellamy and myself all worked 8 ½ hrs. (4 1/2 hours more than the usual face to face time at the Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library). Please keep this in mind when deciding what we are paid due to the unusual circumstances we dealt with. I think \$275.00 for the assistants and \$325.00 for myself is reasonable.

I received a message from Penny, she said "she was a volunteer and didn't expect to be paid". She said, "Edwina wasn't looking for any compensation either, so at the very least a sincere letter to thank both of these ladies for assisting in the voting process would most likely be appreciated.

Just to let you know Edwina Stevenson, Photographer took pictures to document the procedure starting at 9:00am at the Stony Creek Post Office then we all went to the Stony Creek Fire House. Edwina stepped out around 12:00 noon. She left briefly because the procedure of slitting envelopes and reading off numbers, names and addresses stayed the same without any variation until we called her to return around 2:30 to photograph the final steps. Because Edwina took the oath earlier in the day and time was running out, I decided it would be alright for her to assist in finishing up the ballot balancing and counting she was great.

There was a great deal of organizing that had to be done along with picking up Nick Fischer's list at the Branford Town Hall, getting additional copies at the printers, along with miscellaneous supplies for the workers to use. I met Dan and Mark for about an hour to sanitize workers areas, bathroom and kitchen refrigerator doors placing signs "Sanitized" that I made from home on all surfaces that were cleaned. (Dan and Mark placed tables and chairs, and wiped them down and wiped the doors and railings as well)

An "Official NO ADMITTANCE" was placed on the door.

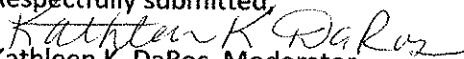
I have receipts to submit for the supplies that I purchased.

We all brought our own lunches and beverages and ate at our posts to get the work done in a timely fashion.

One last note, please remember to thank Company 5 for letting us use their building.

It was a pleasure working with everyone, many hands lightened the load.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathleen K. DaRos, Moderator

PROCESS FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS 2020 - THE YEAR OF COVIG-19

7/18/2020

AT 9:00AM KATHLEEN K. DAROS, PENNY BELLAMY AND EDWINA STEVENSON (PHOTOGRAPHER) PICKED UP THE BALLOTS AT THE STONY CREEK POST OFFICE. THE PHOTOGRAPHER DOCUMENTED THIS PROCESS.

AT 9:15AM THE MODERATOR KATHLEEN K. DAROS, SWORE IN EVERY POLL WORKER; TANYA GREENVALL, DALE ATKINSON, PENNY BELLAMY AND EDWINA STEVENSON WITH THE OFFICIAL OATH ACCORDING TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT. "DO YOU SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT YOU WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE ACCORDING TO LAW, YOUR DUTIES AS ABSENTEE BALLOT COUNTER AND IN THIS CASE PHOTOGRAPHER", TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY, AND THAT YOU WILL SERVE IN THIS ELECTION AS AN OFFICIAL COMPLETELY IMPARTIAL WITH RESPECT TO ANY CANDIDATE OR POLITICAL PARTY, SO HELP YOU GOD (UPON PENALTY OF PERJURY). THEY ANSWERD "I WILL", AND I CONGRATULATED THEM.

THE BALLOTS WERE PLACED ON THE TABLE AT THE STONY CREEK FIREHOUSE IN AN ORGANIZED MANNER THAT ALLOWED SMOOTH CHECK OFF OF ENVELOPES RECEIVED.

ANY ENVELOPES THAT WERE RETURNED TO SENDER WERE PLACED TO THE SIDE AND NOT COUNTED.

ANY ENVELOPES THAT WERE NOT SENT IN THE ORIGINAL ENVELOPE WERE NOT COUNTED. (With the exception of 2 envelopes that had notation on them with the explanation of what the problem was, the ballots were folded in a way, prior to our receiving them, that no information was revealed; it was apparent the original ballot was used and it was placed in ballot box to be counted.)

ANY BALLOT THAT HAD MORE THAN 10 BOARD MEMBERS CHOSEN WAS NOT COUNTED.

ANY INNER ENVELOPE NOT SIGNED AND DATED WAS NOT COUNTED.

ANY LLC WAS NOT COUNTED.

CARE WAS TAKEN TO INTERPERT WHAT THE VOTERS INTENT WAS; FOR INSTANCE, IF A VOTER CLEARLY INDICATED NOT TO VOTE ON A LINE CHECKED BY THEM IN ERROR OR A SCRATCH OUT THAT THEY INTENDED TO NOT COUNT, OR WAS INITIALED, THEIR BALLOTS WERE COUNTED.

THE OUTSIDE ENVELOPE WAS SLIT OPEN AND SEPARATED FROM THE SIGNED ENVELOPE TO BE CHECKED OFF ON ALL 3 LISTS. (*MODERATOR HAS THE TOWN OF BRANFORD REGISTERED VOTER LIST, SCA BY PROPERTY OWNER AND SCA BY OFFICIAL NEUMERIC IDENTIFICATION ON THE OUTSIDE ENVELOPE*) THE BALLOT WILL NOT BE REMOVED FROM THE INSIDE ENVELOPE UNTIL NAMES ARE CHECKED OFF THE ALL THREE LISTS.

THE BALLOT WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE SIGNED AND DATED ENVELOPE AND PLACED IN THE BALLOT BOX. AT NO TIME IS THE BALLOT REVEALED TO ANYONE.

WHEN ALL LISTS HAVE AGREED THAT THEIR COUNTS MATCH, AND ALL THE BALLOTS HAVE BEEN REMOVED AND COUNTED AND MATCH WITH THE LISTS, THE BALLOTS ARE TAKEN ONE BY ONE AND EACH CANDIDATE IS COUNTED IN FIVE COUNT TICS

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE STONY CREEK ASSOCIATION FOR ALLOWING THE TEAM, TANYA GREENVALL, DALE ATKINSON, PENNY BELLAMY AND EDWINA STEVENSEN, TO PROCESS THE ABSENTEE BALLOTS, IT WAS A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH ALL OF THEM.

EDWINA WILL HAVE SOME PHOTOS FOR A PRESENTATION, THOUGH I'M NOT SURE HOW TO GET THEM TO THE ZOOM MEETING.

SINSERELY,


KATHLEEN K. DaROS, MODERATOR

PS,

THIS WAS AN UNUSUAL YEAR WITH THE COVID-19. I'D SAY HISTORICAL FOR THE STONY CREEK ASSOCIATION. IT TOOK A LOT OF COORDINATION TO MAKE IT WORK. LET'S PRAY THAT THERE WILL BE A VACCINATION OR SOMETHING THAT WILL ERADICATE THIS HORRIBLE VIRUS.

STAY HEALTHY EVERYONE, LIVE HAPPY AND LOVE LIFE.