



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Meeting Minutes - Draft MADISON ELECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Tuesday, July 8, 2008

4:30 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 101 (Madison Municipal Building)

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 -

Rosa J. Garner; Paul R. Malischke; Sybil R. Better; Marlena G. Deutsch;  
Valerie A. Brown and Maribeth Witzel-Behl

**Excused:** 2 -

Marilyn E. Williams and Bob Ohlsen

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Deutsch, seconded by Malischke, to Approve the Minutes of the April 29, 2008, meeting. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. 10814 Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair for 2008-2009.

A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Malischke, to re-elect Sybil Better as Chair of the committee. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Malischke, to elect Rosa Garner as Vice Chair of the committee. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. 10134 Requesting that the school district schedule in-service on election days

Witzel-Behl reported that the Mayor's Office has contacted the Madison Metropolitan School District to inquire about scheduling in-service on Election Days. Although the calendar is set for the 2008-2009 school year, the school district has agreed to take a look at this possibility for 2009-2010.

Malischke mentioned that Kentucky state law declares a school holiday for November elections.

Malischke suggested that the Madison Metropolitan School District include election dates on the Dates to Remember section of its website.

3. 10813 Update on the hiring of a Deputy Clerk.

Witzel-Behl reported that there were 48 applicants for the Clerk's Office Coordinator position. The applicants were asked to take a clerical exam and submit a supplemental questionnaire.

4. 10131 Voter Registration on College Campuses

Witzel-Behl reported that she and Malischke had met with representatives from Associated Students of Madison (ASM), and that she is in the process of deputizing members of ASM, sororities, and fraternities to register voters.

Malischke mentioned that the ASM Voter Coalition is working under the New Voters Project of WISPIRG, with a goal of getting 50 organizations to register voters.

Garner mentioned that the new Health Services building is centrally located and could be an ideal location for future voter registration drives.

Malischke said the League of Women Voters might be able to coordinate a voter registration drive on campus in September. Better reported that the League of Women Voters is currently working on registering voters at Madison Area Technical College.

5. 10810 Poll worker recruitment for the November 4 General Election.

Witzel-Behl reported that Madison City Channel is running ads for poll workers, and that other city departments are helping recruit poll workers on their websites.

Deutsch recommended recruiting Eagle Scouts and Girl Scouts to work at the polls. Brown suggested recruiting poll workers from Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs. Better mentioned that the Isthmus Manual lists quite a few service organizations that could be helpful in poll worker recruitment.

Deutsch suggested submitting poll worker recruitment articles for publication in community center newsletters.

6. 10812 Recruitment of high school poll workers.

Witzel-Behl reported that she would work on recruiting high school poll workers once the 2008-2009 school year begins.

7. 10132 Preparation for the Fall 2008 Elections

Witzel-Behl reported that many the election preparation activities she had hoped to do in June have been pushed into July, due to a series of software issues in her office. The Clerk's Office has had light duty workers this summer, though, so the office is ahead of schedule in preparing the supply totes for the September Primary Election.

Malischke asked if the Clerk's Office would extend its hours for voting this fall,

and Witzel-Behl responded that she already has extended hours listed on the City Calendar section of the city website. Malischke suggested staying open past 1 p.m. on Saturdays to accommodate students who may sleep until noon.

Malischke asked about finding volunteers to direct traffic and parking at polling places. Deutsch suggested contacting the READI Parking Pros from Oscar Mayer.

Malischke suggested placing a bright sign on the last pack of ballots for each polling place, reminding the poll workers to call the Clerk's Office for more ballots. Witzel-Behl agreed that it was a good idea.

8. 10811 Development of a recognition program for poll workers.

Witzel-Behl reported that she is working with the city webmaster on incorporating poll worker recognition onto the City Clerk website.

Deutsch suggested presenting poll workers with a certificate signed by the mayor once they reach milestones such as 5, 10, or 15 years of working at the polls. She also mentioned that poll workers could be considered for the Volunteer of the Week featured on the radio, or the Backyard Hero featured in the Isthmus.

Malischke suggested establishing a Madison Poll Worker Foundation, modeled after the Madison Parks Foundation.

9. 05160 Confirmation of next MEAC meeting.

The next meeting of the Madison Election Advisory Committee will be at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 12.

10. 04353 Suggestions for future agenda items.

Committee members requested that the following items appear on the next agenda: Annual Report, Preparation for the Fall Elections, Accessibility, Poll Worker Recruitment, Voter Registration on Campus, and Introduction of the Deputy Clerk.

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Garner, seconded by Deutsch, to Adjourn at 5:48 p.m. The motion passed by voice vote/other.