

Board of Registrars

Lucia Foley
April Bellafiore
Karl Grochowalski
Sarah B. Gmeiner, Town Clerk

Board of Registrars Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: **Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 2:00pm**

Town Clerk's Office M11, South Hadley Town Hall, 116 Main Street, South Hadley, MA

Present: Lucia Foley, Sarah Gmeiner, April Bellafiore Excused: Karl Grochowalski

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve April 29, 2024 minutes made by April, seconded by Sarah, and approved unanimously.

Old BusinessFall Election planning

- Deadlines for local election offices to complete certification of nomination papers for District/County candidates and Federal Party Candidates have passed. Signatures for some ballot questions can still be submitted, so staff will be working to certify those.

Town Election planning

- A resident intends to collect signatures under Section 3 of Ch. 43B to petition the Selectboard to place a Yes or No question about a Charter Commission on the 2025 Town Election ballot. When votes are cast on the question of forming a Charter Commission, votes are simultaneously cast to elect 9 Commission members who qualify to be on the ballot through collection of voter signatures. If the majority of voters approve the question, the top 9 vote-getters will sit on the Commission, to examine how Town government is structured and make recommendations for change. The threshold for getting ballot approval by the Selectboard is 1857 certified, valid signatures representing 15% of the number of registered voters in South Hadley's 2022 state election. The submission deadline is Friday, December 27, 2024, 100 days before the election. Some process information is available at <https://www.southhadley.org/1420/Charter-Commission-or-Adoption-of-a-Home>
- Sarah will forward a running for local office timeline document, with information that can be shared at the proposed information session this fall for those considering a run. Lucia will also need short descriptions of the mission and objectives of each board or other entity, along with typical member duties, tasks, and meeting schedules to develop a print and online handout. Sarah will follow up with Lisa on the info. It would be helpful to inform residents about the local Charter Commission petition effort at Town Election and how that works.
- As info for voters on candidates for Town offices can be hard to find, Sarah will follow up with the Town Administrator identify any options for the town to provide online access to candidate-submitted information.

New Business

- The fall Town Meeting date is November 13, 2024.
- As Karl's term is up and he plans to step down, we will seek to identify and reach out to potential candidates.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 8, 2024 at 2:00pm