

Ballot IntegrityProject
Minutes of 6/9/04 Meeting
Drafted by Roy L.

Present this evening were--

Anne S.
Roy L.
Steve C.
Randy

As a quorum was not present, the meeting was not official.

The meeting convened around 7:25 PM, when Anne, a friend of John, joined Roy.

Anne confessed she didn't know much about the problem, though it greatly concerned her. Roy described the purpose of our group, some of the problems that have arisen with voting machines in recent years, and some of the groups that are campaigning against these problems.

Around 8:00 PM, Steve and a friend of his, Randy, arrived.

Steve said he had hoped to hear a report this evening from Larry about the recent National Ballot Integrity Project meeting in Washington. (Larry was unable to attend this evening.)

Steve provided Anne with more anecdotes about voting-machine problems, and recounted how those problems came to public attention through the effort of just a handful of activists.

Steve also gave a brief report on the hearing conducted in Chicago on June 3 by the bi-partisan Election Assistance Commission (EAC). This is the commission established by the Help America Vote Act to create and promulgate nationwide standards for voting machines.

Steve is working up a report on the hearing. Steve said his impression of the commission was generally positive; the members appear seriously intent on resolving threats to fair elections. They are particularly concerned with ensuring the integrity of state voter-registration rolls.

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Anne asked if our Chicago group is concentrating on education or action. We stated that we have been mainly educational, but, given the shortness of time before the fall elections, we need now to become more activist. Roy apologized that he is more of a writer than a "people" person, and that as a consequence our group is deficient in cohesion and energy.

We brainstormed briefly on how to become more action orientated; suggestions included affiliating with a group of national caliber, and taking advantage of our individual governmental contacts.

The meeting adjourned around 9:15.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, July 14, 2004, at our usual location, Healing Earth Resources, 3111 N. Ashland.