

RESOLUTION NO. 20150127-02b

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area and the City of Austin staff provided extraordinary service to the citizens of Austin during the 2014 election period leading up to the City Council November general election and the December runoff election; and

WHEREAS, a total of eleven general election in-person candidate forums were held on seven different dates in all parts of the City of Austin, were attended by 73 candidates out of a total of 78 candidates, and were attended by a total of 1225 members of the public; and

WHEREAS, runoff election in-person candidate forums were held at City Hall on November 21, 2014, were attended by all 16 candidates for the eight Council seats involved in the runoff election, and were well attended by the public; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Communications and Public Information Office staff—in particular Lara Foss, AXTN Manager Keith Reeves, and Patricia Fraga, the City of Austin Communications and Technology Management Department staff—in particular Gary Luedecke, the audio visual and ATXN support staff, as well as staff of the City of Austin Convention Center provided excellent planning, implementation, and coordination for each of the in-person candidate forums; and

WHEREAS, the members of the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area, led by Frances McIntyre and Jacklyn Williams, played a key role in producing the live, in-person candidate forums, including assisting with scheduling the forums, selecting the questions to be asked of the candidates at the forums, and moderating the forums; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area developed, facilitated, and published the results of candidate questionnaires that was sent to all candidates in the City Council general election prior to the November general election; and

WHEREAS, staff of the City of Austin Communications and Public Information Office and ATXN, in particular Laura Foss and Keith Reeves, facilitated the scheduling, taping, and airing of five-minute candidate statements for all general election candidates who chose to participate, prior to the November general election; and

WHEREAS, the forums were well attended, informative, and provided the citizens of Austin an opportunity to see, hear, meet, and learn about the candidates for each of the districts in this unusual and historic year of introduction to a 10-1 single member district City Council system; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City of Austin Ethics Review Commission expresses its sincere appreciation for the dedication of the League of Women Voters members, City Communications and Public Information Office staff, and City Convention Center staff to the electoral process and for their superb organization of the 2014 City of Austin City Council candidate forums.

ADOPTED: January 27, 2015

Donna Beth McCormick

Aesth. Kaplan

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Peto

Dennis Speight

John Colburn

Miss F. J. Jasson

Sylvia Handman Kling