

AGENDA

Voters First Advisory Commission

**Middletown Town Hall, 350 East Main Road, Middletown, RI
02842**

Monday, July 9, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

*** COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

**THE PUBLIC WILL BE ASKED TO COMMENT ON ANY OF THE
ISSUES PRESENTED BY THE COMMISSION OR ANY OTHER
RELEVANT ELECTIONS RELATED ISSUES.**

Voters First 10-point Agenda

**1. Early Voting – The tradition of holding elections on Tuesdays dates
back to the needs and lifestyles of the early 1800s. In an effort to
increase voter turnout, allowing voting to be conducted over several
days needs to be looked at.**

**2. Voter Roll Cleanup – Our current voter rolls do not accurately
reflect the eligible voting population. The obstacles to removing
people who are deceased, have moved or are registered at more than
one address must be addressed.**

**3. Photo ID – The lack of a photo ID system creates the perception of
voter fraud, shakes voter confidence and leads to lack of voter**

participation. A fair and equitable photo ID system that would stand the test of our judicial system and address the concerns of our community needs to be established.

4. **Voting Booth Privacy** – One of the cherished rights American citizens have is the right to vote in privacy. Adjusting the current placement of voting booths or adding curtains may improve voter perception of privacy.

5. **Polling Places** – Canvassers are required to stand no closer than 50 feet from the entrance to a polling place when distributing literature. Consideration should be given to expanding the “no-canvassing” zone.

6. **Uniform Training & Compensation of Poll Workers** – Long days, inadequate training and differences in training from community to community create problems for voters at polling places. A uniform, statewide system of poll worker training and compensation needs to be studied.

7. **‘No Excuse’ Absentee Voting** – Individuals who wish to vote by mail must submit physician’s proof of medical condition or proof they will not be in Rhode Island for a primary or general election. Consider following the practice of many states that do not require such documentation.

8. Voter Registration (A) – The integrity of the Voter Registration Process is crucial and further discussion needs to take place. Certification of Voter Registration Agents and expanding the number of organizations involved in registering voters should be discussed and considered.

9. Voter Registration (B) – The integrity of the Voter Registration Form is crucial and further discussion needs to take place. Revising the form to require further documentation and proof of residency needs to be discussed.

10. Closing Time for Polling Places – We have been asked to review the current opening times – which vary from community to community – and closing times for polling places.

If you need communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please contact Pam Lombardi at 222-1035 or plombardi@sec.state.ri.us at least three (3) business days prior to the date of the meeting. Requests for accommodation will be arranged at no cost to the public.