January 27, 2016

Brian E. Frosh

Attorney General of Maryland

200 St. Paul Place

Baltimore, MD 21202

To Attorney General Brian Frosh,

The Democratic Central Committee of Anne Arundel County is requesting that your office investigate whether the Anne Arundel County School Board Nominating Commission violated election law.

Maryland statute specifies that the Anne Arundel School Board Nominating Commission “shall hold at least two public hearings on the selection of nominees before recommending to the Governor nominees for appointment to the County Board.”  On Jan. 7, the newly appointed Nominating Commission held only one public hearing before making nominations to the governor. Thus, according to Maryland law, the nominations were illegally made although a second meeting has now been announced as a result of nominee Timothy Boston’s decision to reconsider his withdrawal from the board. In addition, on November 17th, the nominating commission rammed put through a series of administrative changes without providing public notice.

The commission’s website is abysmal.  The website is:

[http://www.aacps.org/admin/templates/sbnc5.asp?articleid=242HYPERLINK "http://www.aacps.org/admin/templates/sbnc5.asp?articleid=242&zoneid=43"&HYPERLINK "http://www.aacps.org/admin/templates/sbnc5.asp?articleid=242&zoneid=43"zoneid=43](http://www.aacps.org/admin/templates/sbnc5.asp?articleid=242&zoneid=43)

Minutes for three of its last four election cycles are completely missing and many other key minutes, such as those including vote tallies for candidates and various procedural decisions, are also missing. The laws affecting the commission’s procedures are scattered in more than a dozen places, and critical ones, including the statute creating the commission, cannot be found on its website.

Thanks in advance for any efforts your office may take to determine whether open government regulations were ignored by the Anne Arundel School Board Nominating Commission.

Anne Arundel County

Democratic Central Committee