The webinar will begin shortly…

This presentation will be recorded and sent out to all attendees with the PowerPoint

NonprofitVOTE

About Nonprofit VOTE

Founded in 2005, Nonprofit VOTE partners with America's nonprofits to help the people they serve participate and vote. We are the leading source of nonpartisan resources to help nonprofits integrate voter engagement into their ongoing activities and services.

Visit www.nonprofitvote.org for our free resources, including factsheets, checklists, toolkits, and additional webinars.

Agenda

- Staying nonpartisan
- Planning pivots for going virtual
- Stories from the field
    - GreenRoots Chelsea's senate candidate forum streamed on facebook
    - League of Women Voters Arlington's "Candi-dating forums"
- Q & A with presenters

Staying Nonpartisan When Engaging Candidates

Candidate Forums & Questionnaires

- Cover a broad range of issues

- Invitations to all viable candidates

- Each candidate should be given equal time/space to present their view on issues

- Candidates are not asked to agree with specific positions or platforms and their answers are not ranked or rated

- Moderator and questions are neutral and do not imply approval or disapproval of candidates or positions

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Staying Nonpartisan When Engaging Candidates

Asking a question at a forum

Make sure….

- Your approach is nonpartisan
- You pose the question to all candidates
- The question doesn't imply a correct answer

Sharing your policy ideas

Make sure….

- You send the same information to all candidates for the same office

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Planning Pivots

1+ Month Out

- Approach partners about collaborating
- Select potential dates and **locations** for the forum
- Decide on a forum format
- Draft a budget
- Contact the candidates. Get their agreement on participating and dates.
- Select a moderator
- Develop a plan for **publicity and audience turnout**

Choose what platform(s) you will use: Zoom, Facebook, etc

Think about how people will participate/engage

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Planning Pivots

3 Weeks Out

- Final confirmation of candidates
- **Reconfirm site arrangements**
- Recruit and confirm **volunteers**
- Create promotional materials: poster, social media, press release.
- Ramp up media contact and other communications.

Work on your tech set up – do you need to create a meeting or event?

Are they tech savvy? Will you need to train them on the platform?

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Planning Pivots

1-2 Weeks Out

- Continue to recruit attendees. Emails, social media, calls.

- Final media reminders and press release

- Select a timekeeper

- A/V and other advance **set up arranged**.

Can you do a "run-through" or test your platform and any other tools that will be used?

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Planning Pivots

Day of Event

- Complete set-up at **forum**
- Have staff or volunteers greet people
- Set up the **head table, hall and A/V**
- Open the forum with a welcome and thank yous
- Review ground rules for forum for candidates and attendees
- Budget time for **informal Q&A or mingling** after the forum

Is there an IT person that folks can contact with issues and can make sure candidates are properly set up?

Gather your links or info you want to send out via chat or comments to the audience

How will you keep it engaging even though it is a virtual event? Polls, breakouts, etc

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Maria Belen Power
Associate Executive Director

CHELSEA AND EAST BOSTON

Chelsea:
➢ 1.8 square miles
➢ 45,000+ residents
➢ 73% ethnic minorities
➢ 24% live below poverty line

East Boston:
➢ 5 square miles
➢ 55,000+ residents
➢ 53% Latino
➢ 17% live below poverty line

The Boston Globe

YVONNE ABRAHAM

In Chelsea, the deadly consequences of air pollution

Coronavirus isn't just a health crisis in Chelsea. It's also an environmental one.

By **Yvonne Abraham** Globe Columnist, Updated April 29, 2020, 6:43 p.m.

Massachusetts communities with dirty air are coronavirus hotspots

By **Zoe Greenberg** Globe Staff, Updated April 29, 2020, 7:33 p.m.

The New York Times

In a Crowded City, Leaders Struggle to Separate the Sick From the Well

Chelsea, Mass., has an infection rate higher than any other community in the state. With families in cramped housing, it is difficult to contain the spread.

wbur

COMMENTARY

You May Not Realize It, But Chelsea Makes Your Life Better. Now It's The Epicenter Of COVID-19 In Mass.

BU Today

News, Opinion, Community

PUBLIC HEALTH

BU Public Health Researchers Aid Chelsea, Epicenter of State's COVID-19 Outbreak

"Every person counts," says epidemiologist whose data show the city's rate of confirmed cases is higher than rates in Manhattan and Brooklyn

CommonWealth

NONPROFIT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, IDEAS & CIVIC LIFE

COVID-19's link to environmental racism

Even now it's happening along Chelsea Creek

wbur

A Look Inside Chelsea, The State's Top Coronavirus Hotspot

The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

A Look Inside Chelsea, The State's Top Coronavirus Hotspot

How to Host a Candi-Dating Forum on Zoom

Joan Porte
lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com

What is candi-dating?

It is speed dating for candidates and voters

It allows each person the opportunity to meet one-on-one with the candidates and ask their own questions

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Format

- Allow each candidate 3 -5 minutes to do their intro.
- TIMING: tell candidates to watch the designated timer.
- That person will have white cards with "one minute", "30 seconds" and "times up" written. They will screen share at appropriate time – make sure they have the ability to screen share.
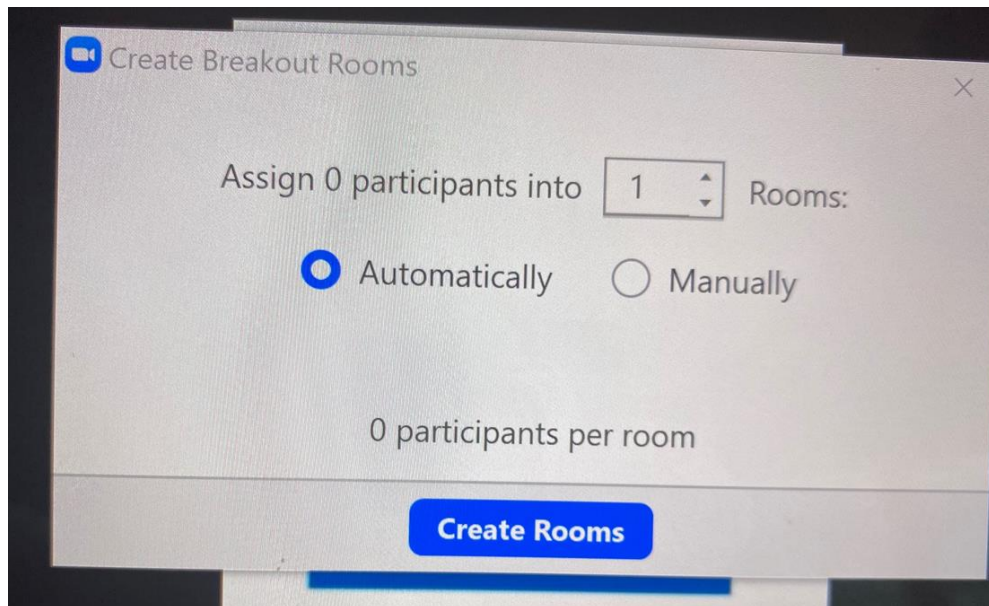- Then begin first segment of breakout rooms

Format

- When the first segment ends, and everyone is back in the main room, DO NOT HIT RESET ROOMS.

- Move the candidates around and then hit open rooms again.

- Rinse, repeat

- Closing remarks if you want – and end.

Notes for a smooth operation

- Make a list of each candidate and what rooms you want them in.
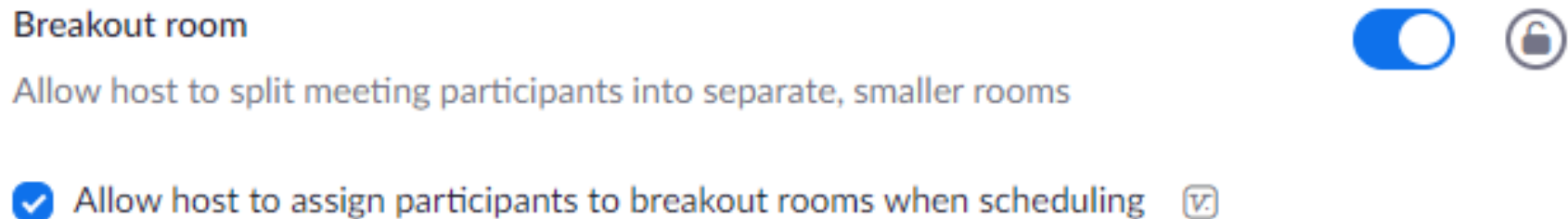- Assign one person to "keep order."

Candidate	Room
A	1, 2, 3
B	2, 3, 1
C	3, 1, 2

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Notes for a smooth operation

- In Zoom you must enable breakouts. This is in In Meeting (Advanced) settings.

Breakout room

Allow host to split meeting participants into separate, smaller rooms

☑ Allow host to assign participants to breakout rooms when scheduling

- We use Eventbrite for ticketing – and then send the Zoom link only to those people who RSVP.

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Question & Answer

Use the chat box to send us your questions.

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