



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

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COMMISSIONERS

Ethridge A. King, Jr.
Larry W. Ward
Charles J. Marquardt
Victoria A. Harris

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Tanya L. Ford

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Lesley Waxman

BOARD OF ELECTION Voter Registration Challenge Hearing Minutes of April 12th, 2023

5:32 p.m. – Voter Registration Challenge Hearing. Challenge filed by Charles Teague regarding voter registration of Sam Seidel, 43 Harris Street.

Roll Call:

Commissioner King	Present
Commissioner Marquardt	Present
Commissioner Harris	Absent due to recusal
Commissioner Ward	Present

Also present was Executive Director Tanya Ford, Assistant Director Lesley Waxman, and the First Assistant City Solicitor Mr. Elliot Veloso.

The commission received several memos regarding this matter from Ms. Hoffman, Craig Kelly, David Sullivan, and a supplemental legal opinion from the City Solicitor’s office.

Commissioner King asked Mr. Veloso to put in lay terms the 1839 case, Abington versus North Bridgewater. He explained why the SJC sided with the jury that the person lived in North Bridgewater.

Commissioner Ward asked what happens if there is not a majority vote by the commissioners. Mr. Veloso stated there would be no change.

Ms. Ford noted that since it was mentioned by Mr. Seidel that others are in a similar situation, the board can’t ignore it and must pursue similar situations.

Commissioner Ward asked for a clarification if the commission must go after others in similar situations. Quoting general law, Mr. Veloso read they “may prepare a complaint.” He stressed that may and shall are two different things. Shall means we are required to act, may is an option to do something.

Commissioners Ward, Marquardt, and King expressed great pains to vote against Mr. Seidel, however based on the legal feedback from the City Solicitor and the fact that his house is 100% in Somerville they voted to remove him from the Cambridge voter role.

Motion: Mr. Seidel is incorrectly registered as a voter in Cambridge and should be removed from Cambridge voter roll and provided with the correction information of where to register to vote.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner King

Commissioner King	Yes
Commissioner Marquardt	Yes
Commissioner Ward	Yes

Passed: 3-0

Hearing Adjourned 6:13

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt
Seconded: Commissioner King

Passed: 3-0

A True Record

Attested by: _____
Larry Ward, Secretary