



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

51 Inman Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1732 • Telephone 617-349-4361 • TTY: 617-492-0235
Fax: 617-349-4366 • Email: Elections2@cambridgema.gov • Website: www.cambridgema.gov/election

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Tanya L. Ford-Crump

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Lesley Waxman

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS MEETING Minutes of November 12, 2021

Commissioner Harris, acting as Chair with Commissioner Ward on vacation, called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm on November 12, 2021 via Zoom.

Roll Call:

Commissioner Larry Ward	Absent
Commissioner Victoria Harris	Present
Commissioner Ethridge King	Present
Commissioner Charles Marquardt	Present

Also, present were Executive Director Tanya Ford-Crump and Assistant Director Lesley Waxman.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

II. MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of November 2 and 3, 2021 with corrections.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3—0—1 Commissioner Ward absent

Motion: To approve the minutes of November 3, 2021.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3—0—1 Commissioner Ward absent

Motion: To approve the minutes of November 4, 2021 with corrections.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3—0—1 Commissioner Ward absent

Motion: To approve the minutes of October 27, 2021 with corrections.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3—0—1 Commissioner Ward absent

III: REPORTS

1. Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director informed the Commissioners that they would need to determine whether to adopt Early In-Person Voting for the upcoming Special State Senate Election. The Commissioners and staff discussed options for Early In-Person Voting especially given the likelihood of low turnout in the special election determining that using the Commission office would be the best approach.

Motion: To set early voting hours for December 6 through 10, 2021 for normal business hours at the Election Commission office at 51 Inman St.

Moved: Commissioner Harris

Seconded: Commissioner King

Passed: **3—0—1 Commissioner Ward absent**

2. Assistant Director's Report

There was no Assistant Director's report.

3. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Marquardt reported:

- He and Commissioner Harris packed ballots for the Municipal Election on Friday, October 29th.

Commissioner Harris reported:

- She assisted in absentee voting at Neville Center on October 28th and at Neville Place on October 26th.
- She and Commissioners King and Marquardt held Zoom meetings with poll workers on October 30th and 31st.

IV. ACTION AGENDA

Old Business

Provisional Ballots

Commissioner Harris informed all that the Commissioners would be reviewing the Provisional Ballots from the Municipal Election on November 2, 2021.

The process began with the Commissioners reviewing the envelopes from precincts without any Provisional Ballots. The following precincts had no Provisional Ballot:

1-1	3-1	5-2	7-2	8-3	11-1
1-3	3-2A	5-3	7-3	9-1	11-2
2-1	3-3	6-2	8-1	10-1	
2-2	4-1	6-3	8-2	10-2	
2-3	5-1	7-1	8-3	10-3	

The Commissioners then began reviewing each Provisional Ballot to determine if it should be counted or not. If the Provisional Ballot is determined to be counted, Commissioner King would then read the ballots for inclusion in the final election results.

Precinct Item

1-2 Voter indicated that they registered via the Registry of Motor Vehicles prior to the deadline to register. Staff confirmed with the RMV regarding the voter in question and was informed that they had indeed registered prior to the deadline.

Motion To count the Provisional Ballots.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

3-2 #1 Ballot mailed to voter's residence voted in error by the voter's roommate as they have very similar names and signatures. Staff received confirmation from roommate regarding error.

Motion To count the Provisional Ballots.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

3-2 VL#1 Voter claimed that they had registered prior to the deadline via the Registry of Motor Vehicles. EV Ballot Staff confirmed registration with RMV prior to the deadline.

Motion To count the Provisional Ballots.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

4-2 Voter claimed they were registered. Staff identified that they had been removed from the rolls due to inactivity. Voter completed affidavit of current and continuous residence.

Motion To count the Provisional Ballots.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

Precinct
Item

4-3 Voter claims that they are registered in Cambridge. Staff conducted thorough search with no evidence of registration.

Motion To not count the Provisional Ballots.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

6-1 #1 Voter was removed from the rolls based on a written comment on their City census form. The comment was misinterpreted and the voter should not have been removed.

Motion To count the Provisional Ballots.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

6-2 #2 Voter had moved and is registered at their former address in 5-1. The voter appeared at the polls close to closing so they would not have time to make it to 5-1.

Motion To count the Provisional Ballots in 5-1.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

9-2 Voter claimed to live at their relative's address in Cambridge. Had been previously deleted in Malden. There is no evidence available to support that they live in Cambridge.

Motion To not count the Provisional Ballots.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

9-3 The voter does not live in Cambridge.

Motion To not count the Provisional Ballots.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

11-3 The voter is registered in Medford and voted there in 2020.

Motion To not count the Provisional Ballots.
Moved: Commissioner Harris
Seconded: Commissioner King
Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

There was also an Early Voting Provisional Ballot from 8-1 that was able to be counted at 8-1 on Election Day based on the research conducted prior thereto.

Overseas Absentee Ballots

The Commissioners then began reviewing each Overseas Absentee Ballot to determine if it should be counted or not. If the Provisional Ballot is determined to be counted, Commissioner King would then read the ballots for inclusion in the final election results.

Precinct	Item
1-1	Ballot postmarked 10/27.
Motion	To count the Overseas Absentee Ballots. Moved: Commissioner Harris Seconded: Commissioner King Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)
6-3	Ballot postmarked 10/27
Motion	To count the Overseas Absentee Ballots. Moved: Commissioner Harris Seconded: Commissioner King Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)
6-3	Received 11-3 without a postmark from Ireland. Commissioners determined that the ballots had to have been mailed prior to 11/2 in order to be received on 11/3.
Motion	To count the Overseas Absentee Ballots. Moved: Commissioner Harris Seconded: Commissioner King Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)
9-2	Ballot postmarked 11/2.
Motion	To count the Overseas Absentee Ballots. Moved: Commissioner Harris Seconded: Commissioner King Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)
10-1	Ballot postmarked 11/2
Motion	To count the Overseas Absentee Ballots. Moved: Commissioner Harris Seconded: Commissioner King Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

The Commissioners were informed by staff that there were no additional overseas absentee ballots received prior to the deadline.

There were 6 additional Early Voting by Mail Ballots (3 each from 10-1 and 10-3) that were received prior to 8:00 pm on November 2, 2021 that had yet to be counted which should be included in the results. Commissioner King read each ballot so that they could be included in the final results.

The results of the election were reviewed and crosschecked by the auditor and consultants.

Final results (attached) were then read by Commissioner Harris for:

- City Council;
- School Committee; and
- Ballot Questions.

Next Commission meetings will be Wednesday 11/17 at 5:30 pm by Zoom.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm

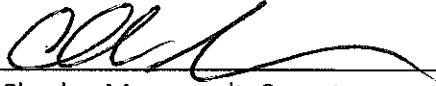
Moved: Commissioner Harris

Seconded: Commissioner King

Passed: 3-0-1 (Commissioner Ward Absent)

A True Record

Attested by: _____


Charles Marquardt, Secretary