



# 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  
Lesley Waxman

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Tanya L. Ford-Crump

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

## BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS MEETING

### Minutes of April 7, 2021

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm on April 7, 2021 via Zoom.

#### Roll Call:

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

Also present was Assistant Director Lesley Waxman.

The Chair took up Item number two under Old Business in the Action Agenda - review of the "Rules of the Board of Election Commissioners," so that the group could discuss matters with Arthur Goldberg of the City Solicitor's Office.

Mr. Goldberg introduced himself, and stated that he was present to answer any questions regarding the draft rules under consideration by the Commission.

The Commissioners asked questions regarding the rules contained in the draft document and the necessity of some to be included. Mr. Goldberg explained that the rules provided details about conduct at the meeting to inform anyone attending as to appropriate behavior. The group also discussed with Mr. Goldberg regarding the possibility of the public being allowed to attend meetings via Zoom after restrictions have been lifted post-pandemic. Mr. Goldberg stated that this provision is being considered but does not have any updates at the moment.

There was also discussion regarding the provision of name and address by members of the public speaking at a meeting, and considerations being made for individuals who may have issues of safety where disclosure of certain information would be difficult. Mr. Goldberg stated that the Commission has the discretion to suspend the rules as necessary. Mr. Goldberg also informed the Commission that the only rules that could not be suspended were provisions required by law: for example, a quorum is necessary to hold a meeting.

In response to a request by a member of the public, the following motion was made:

**Motion:** To suspend the rules in order to allow public comment.  
**Moved:** Commissioner King  
**Seconded:** Commissioner Ward

#### Roll Call

Commissioner King	Yea
Commissioner Marquardt	Yea
Commissioner Ward	Yea
Commissioner Harris	Yea
<b>Passed:</b>	<b>4—0</b>

Buildings and Grounds subcommittee on April 1, which will be discussed under the Action Agenda.

Commissioner Marquardt reported that he had been reappointed by the City Manager as an election commissioner.

Commissioner Harris reported the following:

- a. 105 Vassal Lane is a valid address and 30 George Street is not a valid address.
- b. The Equal Democracy Project of Harvard Law School will host an event for the Commission on April 29. The program will focus on the 2021 Municipal Elections and the re-precincting process. She would like to have the City help with publicizing the event if possible.

Ms. Waxman commented that the Secretary of State's office has asked local jurisdictions what help they may need with the process. Commissioner Harris asked whether there were any indications that they may use census estimates with the re-precincting process. Ms. Waxman responded that she will be attending a webinar on April 14 and may be provided with additional information then.

Ms. Waxman stated that she can forward information to Lee Gianetti to post on the City's website and social media regarding the Equal Democracy Project event on April 29.

### **III. Public Comment**

**Motion:** To open public comment.

**Moved:** Commissioner King

**Seconded:** Commissioner Ward

#### **Roll Call**

Commissioner King Yea

Commissioner Marquardt Yea

Commissioner Ward Yea

Commissioner Harris Yea

**Passed:** 4—0

Robert Winters asked whether the two school committee candidates information is available to the public. He also asked whether there will be changes to polling locations for this year. He stated that he did not know about the Harvard Law School event.

Ms. Waxman responded that the two new school committee candidates are Nancy Alach and Andrew King.

John Hawkinson stated that an order to open public comment was not necessary according to Robert's Rules of Order.

Commissioner King, in response to public comment, stated that there have been no changes made to date to polling locations. In response to public comment, Commissioner Harris stated that the Harvard Law School event had not been publicized due to its recent confirmation.

**Motion:** To close public comment.

**Moved:** Commissioner King

**Seconded:** Commissioner Ward

#### **Roll Call**

Commissioner King Yea

Commissioner Marquardt Yea

Commissioner Ward Yea

Commissioner Harris Yea

**Motion:** To Accept and Send the letter to the Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee of the Cambridge School Committee as amended

**Moved:** Commissioner King  
**Seconded:** Commissioner Ward

Commissioner King Yea  
Commissioner Marquardt Yea  
Commissioner Ward Yea  
Commissioner Harris Yea  
**Passed:** 4—0

The next meetings of the Commission are scheduled for April 21, 2021 at 5:30 pm via Zoom.

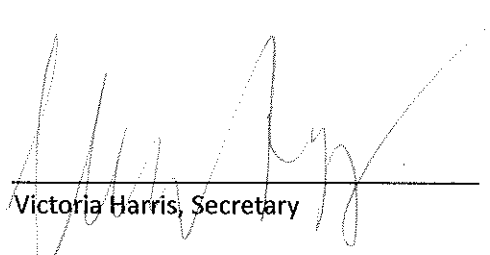
Precinct locations will be included in the meeting agenda.

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm  
**Moved:** Commissioner King  
**Seconded:** Commissioner Marquardt

**Roll Call**

Commissioner Marquardt Yea  
Commissioner Harris Yea  
Commissioner Ward Yea  
Commissioner King Yea  
**Passed:** 4—0

A True Record

Attested by:   
Victoria Harris, Secretary