



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-Crump

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Lesley Waxman

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Minutes of February 2, 2022

Commissioner Ward called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm on February 2, 2022 via Zoom.

Roll Call:

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

Also present was Assistant Director Lesley Waxman.

Executive Director Ms. Ford-Crump had informed the commissioners that, due to a personal emergency, she would not be able to attend the meeting.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Mello, Franklin Street asked the Commission to look into the minutes of prior meetings to ensure that all Public Comment had been included therein.

Motion: To close Public Comment.

Moved: Commissioner Ward

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Roll Call:

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

Passed: 4—0

II. MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of January 21, 2022.

Moved: Commissioner Ward

Seconded: Commissioner King

Roll Call:

Commissioner Larry Ward	Yes
Commissioner Victoria Harris	Yes
Commissioner Ethridge King	Yes
Commissioner Charles Marquardt	Yes
Passed:	4—0

III: REPORTS

1. Executive Director's Report

As noted above, the Executive Director was not available for the meeting due to a personal emergency. The Assistant Director informed the Commissioners that she was not prepared to discuss the Executive Director's agenda items so they would be moved to the next meeting's agenda. The Commissioners agreed that this was appropriate.

The Commissioners did provide the Assistant Director with some budget observations:

- The Automark machines are in need of an upgrade. Ms. Waxman noted that the machines are governed via contracts at the Secretary of the Commonwealth's office. Commissioner Marquardt asked if Kate and Rachel from the Disabilities Commission could be invited to a future meeting to discuss the Automark and other related matters.
- Commissioner Harris commented that the old voting booths date back decades and there is some concern that they could collapse if a voter were to put their weight on the booth. Newer booths that could be separated to provide additional social distancing would be optimal.
- Accessible vote by mail was available during the Municipal Election, but will the Secretary's office approve it for State elections.

2. Assistant Director's Report

A. School Committee Campaign Finance Report

- o Due January 20, 2022.
- o Formal notice of failure to file mailed on January 27, 2022 to 5 committees that failed to file on time.

B. Statements of Financial Interests.

- o Email reminders sent January 26, 2022 to 5 filers.
- o As of February 2, 2022 4 filers were still delinquent.
- o Commissioner Marquardt commented that he wanted to hold a hearing as many of the non-filers are habitual late filers and that this was not acceptable.
- o Ms. Waxman noted that she would be able to send out letters for the hearings for the meeting after next. Commissioners agreed that this approach was appropriate.

3. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Harris reported:

- 7 Newman Street is a valid address.
- She was invited to attend a meeting with the Vote 16 Network.
- She was requested to participate in a podcast.

IV. ACTION AGENDA

Old Business

Commissioner Harris provided an overview of the Warden and Clerk debrief meeting from the Municipal Election with Wardens, Clerks and Commissioners Harris, Marquardt and King and December 4th the details of which are included in the attached summary.

Commissioner King commented that the Commission should review its policies, procedures and practices in light of the changes to elections resulting from the pandemic and implemented changes to how people vote.

Commissioner Harris commented that it would be beneficial to survey Cambridge voters to ensure that the Commission was focusing on the matters that are most important to voters. This could be included in the City's annual survey or as a separate survey from the Election Commission. Commissioners concurred that a survey would be very beneficial.

New Business

Ms. Waxman commented that she had put together a table of precincts and polling locations. She has indicated where there are precincts where new polling location may be needed.

Ms. Waxman walked the Commissioners through the listing of precincts with potential polling locations. She asked the Commissioners to look into potential locations for their precincts where new polling locations may be required.

Upcoming meetings of the Election Commission were scheduled:

March 2 – Hearing and Meeting

March 16 – Meeting

March 30 - Meeting

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:09 pm.

Moved: Commissioner Ward

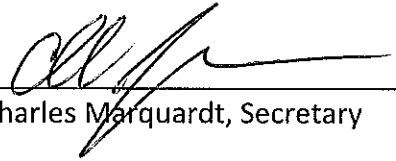
Seconded: Commissioner King

Roll Call:

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

Passed: 4—0

A True Record

Attested by: 
Charles Marquardt, Secretary