



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

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COMMISSIONERS

Ethridge A. King, Jr.
Polyxane S. Cobb
Larry W. Ward
Charles J. Marquardt

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tanya L. Ford

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Lesley Waxman

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Minutes of February 28, 2018

The meeting of the Cambridge Election Commission was called to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Election Commission Office, 51 Inman Street. Present were Commissioner Larry Ward, Commissioner Charles Marquardt, Commissioner Polyxane Cobb, Commissioner Ethridge King, Assistant Director Lesley Waxman, and members of the public, Ethan Cobb, John Hawkinson, Gary Mello, Robert Winters, Patrick Barton, Tom Stohlman and Victoria Harris.

I: MINUTES

The Minutes of February 13, 2018 were reviewed.

Motion: To approve the Minutes of February 13, 2018 with corrections.

Moved: Commissioner King

Seconded: Commissioner Cobb

The Motion passed: 4-0

II: REPORTS

Executive Director's Report – None, Ms. Ford absent.

Assistant Director's Report

Ms. Waxman reported that the City Council voted on February 26th to discontinue the use of the existing voting machines and approve the use of the new voting equipment. (Presentation materials from the City Council meeting attached.)

Ms. Waxman reported on the progress in finding replacement polling locations for 10-1 and 9-3:

- The fire station across the street from the current 10-1 polling location is available. Ms. Waxman has visited and there may be an issue with a temporary handicapped ramp because of a step at the door to the polling room. DPW to review with carpenters. Another alternative may be to enter through the kitchen.
- Ms. Waxman and Ms. Ford will be visiting two potential replacement locations for 9-3 next week. One potential location is the Corcoran Park Community Room. The other is the Aberdeen Ave. Library. Commissioner Cobb expressed concerns with the size of the library room and potential accessibility issues.

Ms. Waxman reported that there will be a meeting with the City Manager and the School Department next week regarding 9-3.

Ms. Waxman reported that the City Census was mailed February 13, 2018.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Cobb reported that 490 Mt. Auburn Street is not a valid address.

Commissioner Cobb reported that she attended the City Council voting machine meeting on February 20th.

Commissioner Ward reported that he attended the City Council voting machine meeting on February 20th with Commissioner Cobb.

Commissioner Ward reported that he attended the City Council meeting on February 26th.

III: PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Barton discussed concerns with voters being able to locate the Corcoran Park Community Room. He suggested using signs to direct voters. He also expressed his support for closing schools on Election Day while admitting that Special Elections complicate the issue.

Mr. Winters commented that he has heard from voters over the past month that the ballots are hard to read with so many choices and potential rankings. He supports truncating the number of potential rankings to allow for larger type and his data review finds that truncation does not change results.

IV: ACTION AGENDA

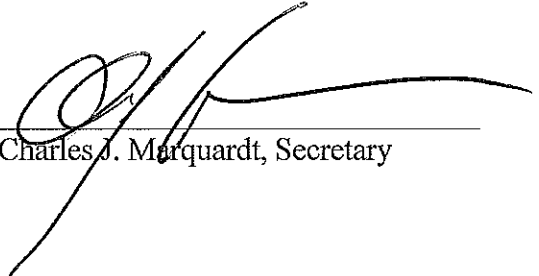
Old Business

meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 14th at 5:30 p.m. at the Election Commission offices at 51 Inman Street.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m.
Moved: Commissioner Cobb
Seconded: Commissioner King
The Motion passed: 4-0

A True Record

Attested by: _____


Charles J. Marquardt, Secretary