



# 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 August 24, 2022

Commissioner Marquardt called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 via Zoom.

#### Roll Call:

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

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

#### I. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Hawkinson stated he would like to speak after Ms. Waxman

**Motion:** To close Public Comment  
**Moved:** Commissioner Marquardt  
**Seconded:** Commissioner Harris

#### Roll Call:

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

**Passed:** 4 —0

#### II. MINUTES

**Motion:** Minutes of August 17<sup>th</sup> accepted with corrections

**Moved:** Commissioner Marquardt  
**Seconded:** Commissioner King

#### Roll Call:

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

Commissioner Harris	Yes
Commissioner King	Yes
Commissioner Marquardt	Yes

Mr. Hawkinson suggested avoiding any method that would force the touching of tape. He also suggested the tape could be signed in the middle and cut across the signature so it could be matched up if needed.

Mr. Mello stated he would like for public comment to be reconsidered for when it is scheduled during the meeting.

**Motion:** To close Public Comment  
**Moved:** Commissioner Marquardt  
**Seconded:** Commissioner Harris

**Roll Call:**

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

**Passed:** 4 —0

**3. Commissioners' Reports**

**Commissioner Harris:** Received an email from MIT Professor Charles Stewart. He is teaching an undergraduate course whereby he would like students to gain some "on the job or in the precinct" experience at the polls. He wants to offer two opportunities 1) Working at the polls. Commissioner Harris suggested we could offer half shifts if the students can work it out, 2) A protocol (use in other jurisdictions), where students observe at the precinct, looking at how long it took voters to check in. Students would come in pairs for about two hours. One student would observe voters as they are coming in. The other student would time voters as they go through the precinct with check-in, voting, and going to the tabulator to insert their ballot. Professor Stewart is asking if any of this is a possibility. Commissioner Harris thinks students working at the polls would be beneficial and if they did do an observation, hopefully the information would be shared with the commission, and we might gain some data that may inform our practices and possible policies. She also did a site visit to Reservoir Church to figure out the arrangements for 11-1 and 11-1A. Commissioner Marquardt stated regarding Professor Stewart's proposal he likes the idea of getting involved with various college political sciences departments for a pool of workers, although they tend to have a high turnover rate due to the fact, they are college students. He also thinks "observational data" might be helpful.

Commissioner King agrees with Commissioner Marquardt, also thinks the analytics they could provide would be helpful for future planning. He would like to see it done for a municipal and presidential election. He agrees that having students work the polls is great and we should think about having split shifts to attract younger workers. He supported Commissioner Harris stating, let him know if there is any way he can help. Commissioner Harris will follow up with Professor Stewart and ask if we can have a copy of the protocol. Commissioner Marquardt mentioned he would like to know how this would impact the office staff. Commissioners Ward and Marquardt did AUTOMark testing on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Marquardt noted that it did nothing more than reinforce the need for replacements from the Secretary of State's office.

**Commissioners King:** Commissioners King and Marquardt attended a Cambridge Crossing event on August 18th. They collected one registration and one poll worker registration. Commissioner King ordered four locked bags for carrying ballots on election day.

**Commissioner Marquardt:** Attended a webinar on what jurisdictions are doing to protect against internal and external threats against workers. Reminder that all commissioners are doing weekend ballot openings and closings. Boxes should be opened by 7 am and closed at 8 pm.

#### IV. ACTION AGENDA

##### Public Outreach

Commissioner Marquardt noted how you can vote and ways you can vote was on the city blast email on Monday. Also gives a shout out to the Public Information Office, congrats to everyone involved in getting the website to where it is. Commissioner Harris stated having the with the Public Information Office has helped and the redesigned website is great.

##### Old Business

##### Early voting planning

Commissioner Harris asked if we have an aerial view of the 150 feet rule at the early voting sites. Ms. Ford responded yes.

**Motion:** Moved to rescind the 75 foot rule prohibiting campaigning around early voting sites adopted by the City of Cambridge, and except the 150 foot rule prohibiting campaigning around early voting sites pursuant to the 2022 Votes Act adopted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

**Moved:** Commissioner Marquardt

**Seconded:** Commissioner Harris

##### Roll Call:

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

**Passed:** 4 — 0

##### Advanced Processing of Ballots Planning

Four days of Advanced processing of ballot opening starts August 29<sup>th</sup>, 9 am at the Senior Center on the lower level

One day of Advance Deposit starts September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9 am at the Senior Center, on the lower level

##### New Business

Next meeting August 31<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30 via zoom

Election night meeting, September 6<sup>th st</sup>, at 9:30 Senior Center

Provisional Ballot meeting September 7<sup>th st</sup>, at 3:00

Commissioner Marquardt will do an Inspector training at 1 pm Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>,

Commissioner Harris will do an inspector training in the same location 11 am on Monday 29<sup>th</sup>

**Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:39 pm**

**Moved:** Commissioner Marquardt

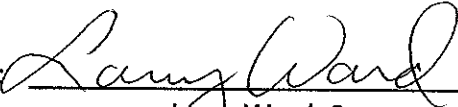
**Seconded:** Commissioner King

**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:   
Larry Ward, Secretary