



# 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

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
Lesley Waxman

## BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS MEETING Minutes of July 12, 2023

**The Chair, Commissioner Harris, called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM on July 12, 2023.** Present were the Chair, Commissioner Victoria Harris, Commissioner Larry Ward, Commissioner Charles Marquardt, Commissioner Ethridge King, Executive Director Tanya Ford, and Assistant Director Lesley Waxman.

### I. PUBLIC COMMENT

None given.

**Motion:** To close Public Comment.  
**Moved:** Commissioner Harris  
**Seconded:** Commissioner Marquardt  
**Passed:** 4—0

### II: MINUTES

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of June 21, 2023 with corrections.  
**Moved:** Commissioner Harris  
**Seconded:** Commissioner King  
**Passed:** 4—0

### III: REPORTS

#### 1. Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director Ford asked the Board to think about the drop-box schedule for next meeting to have a discussion and a vote.
- Vote-by-mail ballot applications will be delivered to the Post Office by August 23.
- 51 Inman Street ballot drop-box will be open to receive the vote-by-mail ballot applications on August 23.
- Vote-by-mail ballots are due to approximately arrive at 51 Inman Street on Friday, October 6—the office will begin to mail them out Tuesday, October 10.
- All the drop-boxes will be open to receive ballots on October 13 at 7 AM.
- The Board will review the “The Ballot Drop-box Pick-up/Drop-off and Chain of Custody Procedures” (R2) for July 26 meeting discussion and vote.

- Commissioner Harris offered up some of her more experienced Poll workers to help out in the office if need arises.

## **2. Assistant Director's Report**

- The Assistant Director reported 29 SFIs filers are delinquent.
- Commissioner Harris offered to help contact the delinquent filers.

## **3. Commissioners' Reports**

- Commissioner King reported that 125 Mt. Auburn Street is not a valid residential address.
- Commissioner Ward reported that 337 Cambridge Street is not a valid residential address.
- Commissioner Harris reported that she and Justine went to Neville Place yesterday (July 11) to help the residents fill out their absentee ballot request applications.

## **4. Public Comment**

- Commissioner Harris paused the meeting at 5:36 PM for public comment. Mr. Hawkins gave a brief comment.

## **IV. ACTION AGENDA**

### **Old Business**

#### **Municipal Election—Signature Certifications**

##### **School Committee**

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 50 provisionally certified signatures for Robert Travers, Jr.

Motion : Officially certify 50 signatures for Robert Travers, Jr.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

##### **City Council**

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 38 provisionally certified signatures for Ayesha M. Wilson.

Motion : Officially certify 38 signatures for Ayesha M. Wilson.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 88 provisionally certified signatures for Sumbul Siddiqui.

Motion : Officially certify 88 signatures for Sumbul Siddiqui.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 34 provisionally certified signatures for Dan Totten.

Motion : Officially certify 34 signatures for Dan Totten.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 22 provisionally certified signatures for Jivan Sobrinho-Wheeler.

Motion : Officially certify 22 signatures for Jivan Sobrinho-Wheeler.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 60 provisionally certified signatures for Catherine Zusy.

Motion : Officially certify 60 signatures for Catherine Zusy.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 83 provisionally certified signatures for Paul Toner.

Motion : Officially certify 83 signatures for Paul Toner.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 47 provisionally certified signatures for Ayesha Wilson.

Motion : Officially certify 47 signatures for Ayesha Wilson

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 35 provisionally certified signatures for Vernon Walker.

Motion : Officially certify 35 signatures for Vernon Walker.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

The Board and a member of the public reviewed the folder with the 5 provisionally certified signatures for Sumbul Siddiqui.

Motion : Officially certify 5 signatures for Sumbul Siddiqui.

Moved: Commissioner Marquardt

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

Passed: 4—0

### **Old Business Continued**

- Commissioner Harris spoke with Calvin Lindsey from CCTV about doing a training video. Commissioner Harris believes it's going to be difficult to complete a training video to meet ScytI's timeline.
- Assistant Director Waxman, stated that there's flexibility with ScytI's timeline.
- Commissioner Harris will reach out to Calvin to discuss recording a few training modules and report back to the Board at our July 26, 2023 meeting.
- The Board had a general conversation about staffing the Polls for early voting. Commissioner Harris referenced MIT Data Science Lab (MEDSL) review of Cambridge's 2021 Municipal Election, and the 2022 State Primary Election early in-person voting activity. Based on the results that showed low utilization of early in-person voting, Commissioner Harris asked what staffing levels we should use for the Municipal Election early voting sites? The Board, with input from the Executive Director and the Assistant Director, agreed that the Early Voting locations should have two supervisors and two inspectors for a total of four.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26, at 5:30 PM.

**Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:09 PM.**

Moved: Commissioner Harris

Seconded: Commissioner Ward

Passed: 4—0

A True Record

Attested by: Ethridge King  
Ethridge A. King, Secretary