



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 January 17, 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, Director Tanya Ford, Assistant Director Lesley Waxman, and members of the public, Ethan Cobb, Victoria Harris, Robert Winters and Gary Mello.

I: MINUTES

The Minutes of January 3, 2018 were reviewed.

Motion: To approve the Minutes of January 3, 2018 with corrections.

Moved: Commissioner Ward

Seconded: Commissioner Cobb

The Motion passed: 4-0

II: REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Ford informed the Commissioners that the date for the 2018 Primary Election has been set for September 4, 2018, the day after Labor Day.

Ms. Ford informed the Commissioners that the Secretary of the Commonwealth is proposing legislation to have early voting for five days prior to the 2018 Primary Election in addition to the early voting period for the General Election.

Ms. Ford discussed identifying available election workers and submitting a list prior to June to get a head start on the Primary and General Elections and associated early voting periods. The Commissioners and staff discussed the impact of the Primary Election date and proposed early voting on the Staff and related preparations for the Primary Election. The Commissioners and Ms. Ford also discussed adding an additional early voting location.

Assistant Director's Report

Ms. Waxman reported that the Year-End Campaign Finance Reports for School Committee are due on January 22nd. She reported that she had already received three reports.

Ms. Waxman provided an update on the Municipal Tabulator programming based on earlier feedback.

Ms. Waxman informed the Commissioners that the Russell Apartments (10-1) will be undergoing construction and will not be available for the 2018 Primary and General Elections.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Ward reported that 215 Columbia is not a valid address.

III: PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Mello provided clarification on his comments from the meeting of January 3, 2018.

Robert Winters informed the Commissioners that he had run the 2017 Municipal Election truncating the data such that there were no transfers beyond 15 rankings. He reported that there was no change in the election results from the truncation to 15 choices.

IV: ACTION AGENDA

Old Business

2017 Municipal Election Review

The Commissioners, Ms. Ford and Ms. Waxman discussed the 2017 Municipal Election and areas that went well and areas for improvement. There was discussion of providing additional tools for Clerks for more consistency in completing the Clerk Sheet. Ms. Waxman also asked the Commissioners to review the Precinct Evaluations and let her know if there are any changes before noon on Friday.

A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 31st at 5:30 p.m. at the Election Commission offices at 51 Inman Street.

A meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, February 13th at 5:30 p.m. at the Election Commission offices at 51 Inman Street.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Moved: Commissioner Ward

Seconded: Commissioner Cobb

The Motion passed: 4-0

A True Record

Attested by: _____


Charles J. Marquardt, Secretary