



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 December 16, 2020

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm on December 16, 2020 via Zoom.

Roll Call:

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

Also present was Assistant Director Lesley Waxman.

I: MINUTES

Motion: To approve the Minutes of November 13, 2020 with corrections.

Moved: Commissioner King

Seconded: Commissioner Ward

Roll Call

Commissioner King	Yea
Commissioner Marquardt	Yea
Commissioner Ward	Yea
Commissioner Harris	Yea
Passed:	4—0

II: Reports

Assistant Director's Report (R1)

SFI Report

Ms. Waxman reviewed the attached SFI report. There are currently 4 people who have not filed; one has not responded to office communications, with the other 3 persons being in the process of submitting their reports. She will follow up with the City Manager in January regarding anyone who still is delinquent in submitting their paperwork.

1. Commissioners Reports

Commissioner Ward stated that 10 Spring Street is not a valid address.

Commissioner Harris reported on the following:

- Two warden/clerk debrief sessions were held on December 9 and December 12. These meetings will be discussed under new business.
- She attended a meeting of the MIT Boston-Cambridge Election Science Working Group on December 10. The topic of the presentation was the media report of election results in the November 2020 elections. The next meeting in January will focus on mandatory voting.

III. Public Comment

John Hawkinson wished the Commission happy holidays.

Gary Mello asked whether Commissioner King was a resident of Massachusetts. Commissioner King replied to Mr. Mello that he was a Massachusetts resident.

Motion: To close public comment.
Moved: Commissioner King
Seconded: Commissioner Ward

Roll Call

Commissioner King Yea
Commissioner Marquardt Yea
Commissioner Ward Yea
Commissioner Harris Yea
Passed: 4—0

IV. Action Agenda

Old Business

2020 Statement of Financial Interests

Ms. Waxman stated that she had reviewed all information in her report.

New Business

Feedback from Warden/Clerk Debrief sessions

The group discussed feedback from the sessions held on December 9 and 12. Wardens and clerks who attended stated that they liked having schools as polling locations and also that school was not in session on polling days.

Wardens and clerks were interested in whether current laws regarding the use of mail-in balloting and early voting will remain in effect after the pandemic. The Commission will wait to hear from the Secretary of State's office as to what may be proposed in the future, and that staffing and office procedures may need to be adjusted accordingly. The group also noted the need for additional office space.

Training was discussed, and the consensus from the election workers was generally positive, and that the on-line training was convenient and thorough. There was a proposal to have future in-person training devoted to demonstration of equipment or for special topics/procedures.

Wardens and clerks stated that it was helpful to get materials earlier in the morning in November, and that having any early ballots delivered as soon as possible would greatly assist with their workloads.

The Commissioners noted the positive feedback from the City Council to the Election Commission staff at its December 14, 2020 meeting. The Commissioners also commended the poll workers for their efforts.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for January 13, 2021 at 3:00 pm via Zoom.

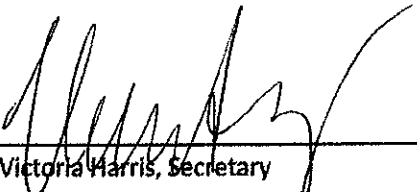
Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 3:41 pm
Moved: Commissioner King
Seconded: Commissioner Marquardt

Roll Call

Commissioner Marquardt Yea
Commissioner Harris Yea
Commissioner Ward Yea
Commissioner King Yea
Passed: 4—0

A True Record

Attested by:


Victoria Harris, Secretary