



# 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 October 14, 2021

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm on October 14, 2021 via Zoom.

#### **Roll Call:**

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

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

#### **I. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Chair opened the meeting for public comment.

There was no public comment.

There being no more public comment.

**Motion: To close Public Comment.**

Moved: Commissioner Ward

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

#### **Roll Call**

Commissioner Ward	Yea
Commissioner Harris	Yea
Commissioner King	Yea
Commissioner Marquardt	Yea

**Passed: 4—0**

**II: MINUTES**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of October 7, 2021 with corrections.

Moved: Commissioner Ward

Seconded: Commissioner King

**Roll Call**

Commissioner Ward Yea

Commissioner Harris Yea

Commissioner King Yea

Commissioner Marquardt Yea

**Passed: 4—0**

**III: REPORTS**

**1. Executive Director’s Report**

a. Municipal Election, November 2, 2021

Executive Director Ford-Crump provided a revised copy of Revised Draft Ballot Drop Box Pickup/Dropoff and Chain of Custody Procedures (R2) which had been discussed at the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Motion:** To approve Revised Ballot Drop Box Pickup/Dropoff and Chain of Custody Procedures.

Moved: Commissioner Ward

Seconded: Commissioner Harris

**Roll Call**

Commissioner Ward Yea

Commissioner Harris Yea

Commissioner King Yea

Commissioner Marquardt Yea

**Passed: 4—0**

Commissioner Harris commented that she had spoken with Victor Camaro from DPW and he will make copies of the top lock keys for the boxes to aid in opening the boxes on the weekend. Ms. Ford-Crump commented that she would coordinate with Victor to have the copies made.

b. Reprecincting Update

Ms. Ford-Crump and Ms. Waxman met with Senator William Brownberger and Assistant Majority Leader, Representative Michael Moran this afternoon regarding the Legislative Redistricting maps. The Senator informed us the Senate will conform their boundaries to ours. Rep. Moran told us the House will not. The House may tweak only small issues. Their boundaries for the most part will remain as the have drawn them. (H4118) He also explained that municipalities were told not to draw their lines because the House would draw their first

The Commissioners discussed the difficulties potentially arising from the House Redistricting maps. One issue is that in using 2010 precincts with 2020 population the House maps appear to require sub-precincts in many precincts within Cambridge. Each sub-precinct in essence is a

new precinct as additional equipment and poll workers are necessary to support the sub-precinct. They also require an additional ballot style which will complicate mail in and early in-person voting with so many ballot styles. These costs are most likely not funded by the State and will be borne by Cambridge.

Ms. Waxman showed a map created by GIS which showed the Cambridge Precincts overlaid with the House districts.

Ms. Waxman pointed out that the 24<sup>th</sup> Middlesex district has too many residents for one precinct but too few for two therefore resulting in a sub-precinct absent any changes being made.

Ms. Ford-Crump asked the Commissioners to email her blurbs of their concerns with the redistricting maps by Sunday evening and she will consolidate into a letter to go to Senator Brownsberger and Representative Moran on Monday.

Commissioner Marquardt agreed to summarize the issues in an email to the City Council and the City Manager after this meeting to see if they wish to comment to Senator Brownsberger and Representative Moran. Commissioner Marquardt also agreed to virtually attend the redistricting hearing on Friday and provide testimony on the impacts to Cambridge.

c. Results of Random Draw

The results of the Random Draw are included at **(R3)**.

2. **Assistant Director's Report**

There was no Assistant Director's Report.

3. **Commissioners' Reports**

Commissioner Harris reported:

Two PSA's have been drafted, please review and provide feedback.

Commissioner Marquardt reported:

He would hold in-person training on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Marquardt commented that he learned the Sgt. Lopes had retired from the Cambridge Police Department and that he thought that the Commission should send him a letter or suitable item thanking him for his service to the Commission over the years.

**IV. ACTION AGENDA**

*Old Business*

The next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm via Zoom.

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 7:14 pm  
**Moved:** Commissioner Ward  
**Seconded:** Commissioner King

**Roll Call**

Commissioner Ward	Yea
Commissioner Harris	Yea
Commissioner King	Yea
Commissioner Marquardt	Yea
<b>Passed:</b>	<b>4—0</b>

A True Record

Attested by:   
Charles Marquardt, Secretary