



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

689 Massachusetts Ave Ste 1, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-3302 • Telephone 617-349-4361 • TTY: 617-492-0235
Fax: 617-349-4366 • Email: Elections2@cambridgema.gov • Website: www.cambridgema.gov/election

COMMISSIONERS

Ethridge A. King, Jr.
Larry W. Ward
Charles J. Marquardt
Thomas J. Stohlman, Jr.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tanya L. Ford

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Lesley A. Waxman

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Minutes of January 28, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm January 28, 2026, via Zoom. Present were Commissioner King, Commissioner Marquardt, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Stohlman, and Assistant Director Waxman.

Roll Call

Commissioner Ward – Present
Commissioner Stohlman – Present
Commissioner King – Present
Commissioner Marquardt – Present

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

John Hawkinson provided comments regarding the process of discussing the items listed on the agenda. In particular he expressed that matters affecting how public participation occurs in the meetings should be subject to public input and comment prior to adoption. He commented that public comment should always be heard before adopting changes to rules and policies, but that it is critical for any changes affecting public participation.

Kelly Dolan provided comments regarding the issues during the municipal elections. Ms. Dolan provided a written submission of her comments for the record which is attached hereto.

Robert Winters provided comment regarding how his discussion with a local new organization regarding the mishap that occurred during the municipal election was portrayed. He commented that after extensive discussion the only included his most inflammatory quote in the article. That was not his intention and he wanted to record to include that he has the utmost respect for the Election Commission and staff and that it is time to focus on enhancing protocols for what has been learned from the mishap. He also commented that he would like to see more in person or hybrid meetings.

Motion: To close Public Comment

Moved by Commissioner Ward
Seconded by Commissioner Stohlman

Commissioner Ward – Yes
Commissioner Stohlman – Yes
Commissioner King – Yes
Commissioner Marquardt – Yes

Passed 4-0

II: MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of October 28, 2025.

Moved by Commissioner Ward

Seconded by Commissioner King

Commissioner Ward – Yes

Commissioner Stohlman – Yes

Commissioner King – Yes

Commissioner Marquardt – Yes

Passed 4-0

Motion: To approve the minutes of January 14, 2026.

Moved by Commissioner Stohlman

Seconded by Commissioner Ward

Commissioner Ward – Yes

Commissioner Stohlman – Yes

Commissioner King – Yes

Commissioner Marquardt – Yes

Passed 4-0

III. Reports

1. Executive Director's Report

- None.

Assistant Director's Report

- Provided an update on 2025 Statement of Financial Interests. 5 Municipal Officials failed to file, She will send notices of hearing tomorrow (1/15) via email and certified mail
 - Peter McLaughlin - Commissioner of Inspectional Services
 - Diego Macias – Planning Board member
 - Olinda R. Marshall - Human Rights Commission member
 - Mark Golberg - Avon Hill NCD Commission member
 - Victoria Bergland – Cambridge Housing Authority.
- Provided an update on the status of campaign finance reports for School Committee candidates' and ballot question committee and their filing status.

Commissioners' Reports

- Commissioner Stohlman provided comment regarding his suggested topics for discussion by the Board. Topics include:
 - Revise Rules of The Board of Election Commissioners.
 - Hold in person meeting/retreat.
 - Adopt rules for public participation at regular BOEC meetings.
 - Adopt rules for public participation at BOEC election count meetings.
 - Adopt process to ensure the technical errors present in the 2025 Municipal Election are not repeated.
 - Adopt rules for the release of public statements regarding an election.
 - Improve poll worker hiring procedures.
 - Improve poll worker training procedures.
 - Investigate hybrid meeting equipment.
 - Investigate a new proportional representation method of electing candidates and transferring votes.
 - Catalog, review, and revise all election procedures.

Commissioner Stohlman commented that it was not his expectation that any of these items would be resolved tonight but to start a discussion about how to prioritize and sequence the effort.

Commissioner Marquardt thanked Commissioner Stohlman for starting the conversation. He further commented that not all items on the list will necessarily be worked on and that other items may be added.

The Commissioners and Assistant Director engaged in a discussion regarding the logistics of a retreat and what that would entail. After significant discussion it was decided to revisit this subject at the next meeting when the Executive Director would be able to weigh in.

IV. Action Agenda

Old Business

Election Review was covered in Commissioner Reports.

New Business

The SFI Hearing and an Election Commission Meeting will be scheduled for February 11, 2026 at 5:30pm on Zoom.

Motion: To adjourn at 6:38pm

Moved by Commissioner Ward

Seconded by Commissioner Stohlman

Commissioner Ward - Yes

Commissioner Stohlman - Yes

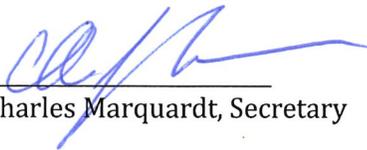
Commissioner King - Yes

Commissioner Marquardt - Yes

Passed 4-0

A True Record

Attested by: _____



Charles Marquardt, Secretary