

Meeting of the Commissioners - Elections
April 7, 2021

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MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS

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April 7, 2021

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COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

LISA DEELEY, CHAIRWOMAN
AL SCHMIDT, COMMISSIONER
SETH BLUESTEIN, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
NICK CUSTODIO, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
DEVIN UQAH, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
TRINA BODNIK

PRESENT:

JOE LYNCH, ELECTION ACTIVITIES ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
JOYCE ROLL, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

HELD AT:

Liacouras Center
1776 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

REPORTED BY: John A. Kelly
Strehlow & Associates, Inc.
(215) 504-4622

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2 P R O C E E D I N G S

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4 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning, everyone. I would
5 like to call to order the meeting of the Philadelphia City
6 Commissioners Board of Elections. Today is April 7th.

7 We will begin with public comments. Commenters shall
8 state where they live, or if they are not a resident of
9 Philadelphia, that they are a Philadelphia taxpayer.

10 Public comment is not an opportunity to dialogue or Q
11 and A. It is public comment, a chance for you to tell us
12 what you think. Each speaker shall have two minutes;
13 however, I may extend the time at my discretion.

14 All public comments must be relevant or germane to
15 Board business. Finally, it is my responsibility to
16 preserve the order and decorum of the meeting. As such,
17 profane, slanderous, discriminatory or personal attacks will
18 not be tolerated.

19 Anyone wishing to offer public comment, please step
20 forward.

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Hearing none, we will now hear a
23 report from Secretary Sabir's deputy regarding e-mailed
24 public comment.

25 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER UQAH: Good morning.

1 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning.

2 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER UQAH: Devin Uqah, deputy for
3 Commissioner Sabir. There were no public comment e-mails.

4 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you. We will now proceed to
5 old business with a report from our executive director, Joe
6 Lynch.

7 MR. LYNCH: Good morning, Commissioners.

8 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning, Joe.

9 MR. LYNCH: Sunshine report for today, for candidates
10 running under the Green, Libertarian, or Working Families
11 Party parties, minor political party nomination papers are
12 available on our website or in City Hall Room 142.

13 For candidates running under other third-parties,
14 political body nomination papers are available on our
15 website or in City Hall Room 142. Nomination papers can be
16 circulated between March 10th and August 2nd. Further
17 information is available on our website. Access to City
18 Hall can be made by appointment by emailing
19 phillyelection@phila.gov or calling (215) 686-3469.

20 We are currently accepting absentee and mail-in ballot
21 applications online at votespa.com or by paper application.
22 As of yesterday, we have approved 62,369 vote-by-mail
23 applications for the Primary. Of those, 52,643 are paper
24 applications, and 9,726 are electronic applications.

25 Yesterday, in mail, we had 986 pieces of mail

1 yesterday, mail-in applications. 650 of those were
2 completed by the end of the day. The remaining of those
3 will be completed by the end of business today.

4 Challenges are still being heard for several judicial
5 candidates. These challenges are being heard in the Supreme
6 and Commonwealth Courts. and court cases.

7 After completing their own work Imaging, Data and
8 Correspondence are working on processing mail-in
9 applications both electronic and paper as well as canceling
10 permanent mail-in requests.

11 Voter registration, for the election cycle to date we
12 have processed 100,103 applications, of which 6,750 were
13 paper. All applications are up to date. In the last week
14 we have been working with petitioners -- I'm sorry. I
15 copied and pasted that.

16 The Election Board, since last Wednesday's report the
17 unit trained 256 Board workers. They have so far confirmed
18 1,863 people that want to work on election day.

19 The Election Activities, they are prepping material for
20 the primary, opening, and prepping mail-in applications.
21 The unit borrowed a truck from fleet management along with a
22 driver to ship material up to the voting machine warehouse
23 in order to pack the material for election day.

24 Polling Places, they have 126 outstanding sites, 234
25 outstanding divisions to date. That's all I have to report

1 for today.

2 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you, Joe.

3 We will now hear from new business with a report on
4 polling places from assistant administrator Joyce Roll.

5 MS. ROLL: Good morning, Commissioners. Good morning,
6 everyone.

7 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning, Joyce. Nice to see
8 you.

9 MS. ROLL: Thank you. Nice to be here. I have three
10 locations for polling places. First one is Ward 15,
11 Division 14 and Ward 15, Division 19, going from the
12 Philadelphia County Medical Society at 2100 Spring Garden
13 Street to the Eastern State Penitentiary at 2027 Fairmont
14 Avenue, reason being that's a vaccination site and we will
15 not be able to use it at this time.

16 The ward leaders have been notified. Signs have been
17 hung, and there are no objections. Next one is Ward 30,
18 Division 2 --

19 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Hold on, Joyce. We'll do --

20 MS. ROLL: Oh, I'm sorry.

21 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: That's okay. I vote to approve the
22 polling place change for 15th Ward.

23 (Inaudible response.)

24 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: All in favor?

25 VOICE FROM AUDIENCE: I object.

1 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: I'm sorry, sir. There's no public
2 comment right now.

3 VOICE FROM AUDIENCE: It's not a comment.

4 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: We're through public comment.

5 VOICE FROM AUDIENCE: This is an objection under
6 Section 710 of the --

7 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: I'm sorry. Let's proceed with this
8 meeting.

9 VOICE FROM AUDIENCE: Objections can be raised at any
10 time under Section 710, Section C. Any person has the right
11 to raise an objection at any point to a perceived violation
12 of the statute at any meeting of a board or council.

13 The objection is that the public does not have a
14 reasonable opportunity to comment on this issue that's
15 before the Board as required by Section 710.

16 If you had made an agenda for this meeting and
17 published it in advance, then the public would have a
18 reasonable opportunity to comment.

19 Now you're taking action on official business without
20 giving the public that reasonable opportunity. I want to
21 put my objection on the record under 710, that this motion
22 can be voided for that reason.

23 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Proceed, Joyce.

24 MS. ROLL: Thank you.

25 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: I'm sorry. Polling place change

1 request for Ward 15, Division 14 and Ward 15, Division 19 is
2 approved. Proceed.

3 MS. ROLL: The next one is Ward 30, Division 2, going
4 from the Universal Charter School at 1427 Catharine to the
5 Scottish Rite Tower, 1530 Fitzwater Street, reason being
6 they are moving back to the original site.

7 The ward leader has been notified, signs hung, and
8 there are no objections.

9 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you. I vote to approve the
10 polling place change for the 30th Ward, 2nd Division.

11 (Inaudible response.)

12 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: All in favor?

13 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.

14 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Approved. Proceed, Joyce.

15 MS. ROLL: The next one is Ward 54, Division 15 and
16 Ward 54, Division 16, going from the Solis-Cohen School at
17 7001 Horrocks Street to the Solis-Cohen Little Schoolhouse
18 at 7001 Horrocks Street, the reason being construction.

19 The ward leaders have been notified, signs are hung and
20 there are no objections.

21 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: I vote to approve the polling place
22 change for Ward 54, Division 15 and Ward 54, Division 16.

23 All in favor?

24 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.

25 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Approved. Proceed, Joyce.

1 VOICE FROM AUDIENCE: I'm putting my objection --

2 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Proceed, Joyce.

3 VOICE FROM AUDIENCE: I'm putting my objection to that
4 motion as well on the record.

5 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: So heard. Proceed, please.

6 VOICE FROM AUDIENCE: The next ward is 54, Division 17,
7 54, Division 18, and 54, Division 22, going from Solis-Cohen
8 School at 7001 Horrocks Street to the Northeast Regional
9 Library at 2228 Cottman Avenue, the reason being
10 construction.

11 The ward leaders have been notified, signs are hung,
12 and there are no objections.

13 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: I vote to approve the polling place
14 changes for Ward 54, Division 17, Division 18 and Division
15 22, reason being, they are constructing a new school. I
16 vote to approve. All in favor?

17 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.

18 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Proceed, Joyce.

19 MS. ROLL: The next one is Ward 58, Division 12, Ward
20 58, Division 33, Ward 58, Division 34, Ward 58, Division 38,
21 going from the synagogue of Congregation Beth Solomon at 198
22 Tomlinson Road to Loesche School at 595 Tomlinson Road
23 because of a religious holiday.

24 The ward leaders are notified, signs are hung, and
25 there are no objections.

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1 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you, Joyce.

2 MS. ROLL: You're welcome.

3 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: I vote to approve the polling place
4 change request for Ward 58, Division 12, Division 33, and
5 Division 34 -- 38, I'm sorry, 34 and 38. I vote to approve.
6 All in favor?

7 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.

8 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Approved. Thank you. Proceed,
9 Joyce.

10 MS. ROLL: And the next one would have been 64-02, but
11 we're pulling it off the docket for a later date. And
12 that's all I have for today.

13 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you, Joyce.

14 MS. ROLL: You're welcome.

15 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Having heard old business, is there
16 any more new business? Commissioner Schmidt?

17 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: I have none.

18 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Hearing none, any new business?

19 (No response.)

20 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Hearing none, I make a motion to
21 adjourn.

22 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: I move.

23 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: All in favor?

24 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.

25 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: This meeting is adjourned to the

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1 call of the Chair. Thank you, everybody. Enjoy the day.

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3 (Whereupon the meeting concluded at 11:11 a.m.)

1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2 I hereby certify that the foregoing
3 proceedings were reported by me, and that I read this
4 transcript and attest that this transcript is a true and
5 accurate record of the proceedings.

6 By:

7 John A. Kelly

8 Court Reporter

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