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Meeting of the Commissioners - Elections
    May 5, 2021
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MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS

May 5, 2021

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
LISA DEELEY, CHAIRWOMAN
AL SCHMIDT, COMMISSIONER
OMAS SABIR, COMMISSIONER
SETH BLUESTEIN, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
NICK CUSTODIO, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
TRINA BODNIK
PRESENT:
JOE LYNCH, ELECTION ACTIVITIES 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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CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning. Today is Wednesday, May 5, 2021. I would like to call to order the Philadelphia City Commissioners Board of Elections meeting.

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

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

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

Anyone wishing to offer public comment, please step forward.

MR. GARELLA: Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Rich Garella. I'm a taxpayer in Philly. For the past few weeks, you've probably noticed that I've been pointing out that the Board fails to give the public a reasonable opportunity to comment on its business by not providing any

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1 kind of agenda or announcing beforehand what you will be 2 meeting to discuss.

I notice that Chair Deeley, in your rules for public comment, you even mention that comments have to be germane to Board business, yet the public doesn't know what that business is going to be when the time of public comment period ends.

Now, last week we mentioned that the Law Department says that the notification to citizens was sufficient. Whether or not that's the case, and we don't think it is, we don't really understand why this Board would be looking for ways to give the public the least possible notification rather than trying to give the public the most possible notification.

I mean, why look for a way to avoid doing this, when we could be looking for ways to bring the public in, tell the public what you're up to, give them a chance to comment on the business that's at hand so that they can truly deliberate on the business that's in front of you. Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: We will now move to a report from the Secretary, Commissioner Sabir for e-mailed public comments.

COMMISSIONER SABIR: Good morning.
CHAIRMAN DEELEY: Good morning.

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COMMISSIONER SABIR: There were no public comments emailed by approximately 5:30.

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

MR. LYNCH: Good morning, Commissioners.
CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning, Joe.
MR. LYNCH: County Board report today, absentee and mail-in ballot applications must be received by May 11th except for active military members, their spouses, and bedridden veterans. Voted ballots must be received by close of polls on Election Day, 8 pm, May 18th.

The County Board of Elections office at City Hall, Room 130 is open for walk-in voting. Our hours are Monday through Friday, 9 am. to 5 pm through Election Day. For those interested, please enter City Hall through the south gates across from the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Voters that need a replacement ballot can order one at ballotform.philadelphiavotes.com or pick up a replacement ballot at our City Hall office.

As of yesterday, we have approved 80,013 absentee and mail-in ballots for shipment for the primary. Of those, 59,290 are from paper applications, and 20,723 are from electronic applications. We have produced and sent 79,173 absentee and mail-in ballots so far. We have received

124,410 voted ballots.

Second Friday pre-primary reports, also known as Cycle 2 campaign finance filings, are due Friday. This report should show all activity through May 3rd. Copies of reports are required to be filed with the County Board of Elections by all judicial candidates appearing on the ballot that reside in Philadelphia and all political committees and lobbyists that have made expenditures to influence the election of such candidates. Reports are also required to be filed with the County Board for District Attorney and City Controller candidates.

Voter Registration, for the election cycle we have processed 118,022 applications, of which 9,600 were paper. Data and Imaging are cleaning up the small amount of applications coming in from other counties as well as proofing all processed apps. Both units are processing mail in ballot applications. Correspondence unit is filing paper applications.

County Board of Elections, to date the unit has trained 2,994 board Workers, 6,293 workers committed to working on Election Day. There are 2 make up training seminars left to do. One is Tuesday May 11th at the Carpenter's training hall. Class times are 2:00, 4:00 and 6:00 pm, located at 10401 Decatur Rd. The other make up class will be held at the United Lutheran Seminary located at 7301 Germantown Ave

1 on Saturday May 15 th and the hours will be 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm. Also, the on-line training is provided to poll workers at training.philadelphiavotes.com.

Election activities and polling places, Election Activities unit should be receiving the sample ballot sheets today. Once they receive them, they will prepare them for the boxes along with any that have been requested by the public.

Polling place units are currently hanging signs throughout the City for any changes that took place this cycle. This cycle, there were 77 changes. Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thanks, Joe. I do want to make one correction at the beginning. The County Board of Elections office at City Hall is in Room 140.

MR. LYNCH: Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you.
Now we will proceed to a report from Deputy Nick Custodio.

MR. CUSTODIO: Good morning, Commissioners.
As of this morning, we have scheduled 24 staffed mobile ballot drop-off events. The times and locations are also available on philadelphiavotes.com.

Wednesday, May 5th, 4:30 to 6:30, Overbrook Elementary.
Thursday, May 6th 4:30 to 6:30, Water Tower Recreation Center.

Saturday, May 8th, 9 to 11, W.C. Longstreth Elementary School.

Saturday, May 8th, 9 to 11, Water Tower Recreation Center.

Saturday, May 8th, 12 to 2, Alain Locke Elementary School.

Saturday, May 8th, 12 to 2, Shawmont Elementary School.
Saturday, May 8th, 3 to 5, Overbrook Elementary School.
Saturday, May 8th, 3 to 5, McMichael Park.
Monday, May 10th, 4:30 to 6:30, McMichael Park.
Wednesday, May 12th, 4:30 to 6:30, Alain Locke Elementary School.

Thursday, May 13th, 4:30 to 6:30, Shawmont Elementary School.

Saturday, May 15th, 9 to 11, Water Tower Recreation Center

Saturday, May 15th, 9 to 11, Feltonville Intermediate School.

Saturday, May 15 th 12 to 2, Shawmont Elementary School.
Saturday, May 15th, 12 to 2, Julia De Burgos Elementary School.

Saturday, May 15th, 3 to 5, McMichael Park.
Saturday, May 15th, 3 to 5, Liacouras Center.
Sunday, May $16 t h, 9$ to 11 ParkWest Town Center.
Sunday, May 16th, 9 to 11, Washington High School.

Sunday, May 16 th, 12 to 2, Alain Locke Elementary School.

Sunday, May $16 t h, 12$ to 2 , J. Hampton Moore School.
Sunday, May 16th, 3 to 5, Bartram High School.
Sunday, May 16th, 3 to 5, Bridesburg Rec Center.
Monday, May 17th, 4 to 6, CFCF.
These are in addition to our $24 / 7$ mail-in ballot drop boxes and the Board of Elections Office at City Hall, Room 140. Voters may only drop off their own ballot, unless the voter is physically unable to personally submit their Absentee or Mail-in Ballot and has designated an agent to deliver their ballot, and the completed forms are submitted with the ballot.

On Tuesday, the Court of Common Pleas approved nine emergency polling place changes. New voter registration cards will mailed to every household in the divisions which changed polling places for this primary, including these nine. Our staff will also hang signs in the division to let the public know.

17-1, 17-4 and 17-12 will be moved from Morris Estate Recreation to Mount Airy Church of God in Christ.

54-8 is moved from Solis Cohen Little Schoolhouse to Northeast Regional Library.

54-17 and 54-18 is moved from Solis Cohen School to the Solis Cohen Little Schoolhouse.

54-19, 54-20 and 54-21 will be moved from Solis Cohen Little Schoolhouse to Northeast Regional Library. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN DEELEY: Thank you, Nick. Is there any new business?

COMMISSIONER SABIR: Madam Chairwoman, I would like to thank the Deputy for getting all those drop-off locations for the district.

CHAIRMAN DEELEY: Thank you. Hearing no new business, I call for a motion to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: So moved.
CHAIRMAN DEELEY: Second?
COMMISSIONER SABIR: Second.
CHAIRMAN DEELEY: All in favor?
COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.
COMMISSIONER SABIR: Aye.
CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: This meeting is adjourned to the call of the Chair. Thank you, everybody. - - - - -
(Whereupon the meeting concluded at 11:11 a.m.)

Meeting of the Commissioners - Elections May 5, 2021

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5 accurate record of the proceedings.
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C ERTIFICATE proceedings were reported by me, and that $I$ read this

By:

I hereby certify that the foregoing transcript and attest that this transcript is a true and

John A. Kelly
Court Reporter

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