

1 PHILADELPHIA CITY COMMISSIONERS

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8 SUNSHINE MEETING

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10 PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT POSITION DRAWING

11 Tuesday, March 18, 2025

12 11:00 a.m.

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1 ATTENDANCE

2 OMAR SABIR, CHAIRMAN

3 LISA DEELEY, VICE-CHAIR

4 SETH BLUESTEIN, COMMISSIONER

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

2 (11:00 a.m.)

3 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Good morning.

4 MR. BLUESTEIN: Good morning.

5 MS. DEELEY: Good morning.

6 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Good morning. I call to order
7 the meeting of the Philadelphia City Commissioners
8 Board of Election for Tuesday, March the 18, 2025.
9 This meeting is in compliance with the Pennsylvania
10 Sunshine Act. The Philadelphia City Commissioners are
11 a three member bipartisan board of elected officials
12 in charge of elections and voter registrations for the
13 City of Philadelphia.

14 Each commissioner is elected to serve a four-year
15 term that coincides with the municipal election cycle
16 for Mayor and City Council. The commissioners set and
17 enforce departmental policies to administer voter
18 registration and conduct elections in accordance with
19 federal and state voter registration and election
20 laws.

21 The City Commissioners were created by the
22 Pennsylvania assembly in 1711 with a focus on taxation
23 and held various regulatory powers throughout the
24 centuries. The Commissioners started maintaining
25 voter lists in 1799 and took on more election related

1 responsibilities, but didn't emerge in its current
2 form until the adaption of the Philadelphia Home Rule
3 Charter in 1951.

4 We will start off with public comments. Before
5 beginning their comments, commoners shall state where
6 they live or if they are not a resident of
7 Philadelphia and that they are a Philadelphia
8 taxpayer. Public comment is not an opportunity for
9 dialogue or Q&A. It is public comment, a chance for
10 you to tell us what you think. Each speaker will have
11 two minutes to speak. However, I may extend the time
12 at my discretion. Public comment must concern matters
13 on today's meeting agenda.

14 Finally, it is my responsibility to preserve the
15 order and decorum of the meetings and as such,
16 profane, slanderous, discriminatory, personal attacks
17 will not be tolerated. If you wish to make a public
18 objection to a perceived Sunshine Act violation,
19 please raise your hand and I will recognize you.
20 Outbursts will not be tolerated. Anyone wishing to
21 offer public comment, please step forward.

22 Hearing none we will now remove to a report from
23 secretary for email public comments. Commissioner
24 Bluestein, are there any email public comments?

25 MR. BLUESTEIN: As of 9:45 a.m. there were no

1 email public comments.

2 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Thank you very much. We will
3 now proceed to new business. We will begin by
4 considering our first agenda item drawing of the
5 ballot positions. Good morning, Dana Elijah.

6 MS. ELIJAH: Good morning, Commissioners.

7 MR. BLUESTEIN: Good morning.

8 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Oh, proceed, Dana.

9 MS. ELIJAH: Okay.

10 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Sorry.

11 MS. ELIJAH: All right, so the ballot position
12 drawing procedure for the 2025 municipal primary
13 election will be as follow. Each candidate who filed
14 complete nomination petitions for a local office will
15 have the opportunity to draw a lot to determine their
16 ballot position on the 2025 primary ballot.

17 For those candidates who wish to use a proxy to
18 draw for their ballot position, the candidate must
19 authorize the selected individual by filing a proxy
20 form or a letter signed by the candidate with the
21 County Board of Elections. Candidates who draw number
22 1 will be placed first on the ballot. Those that draw
23 number 2 will be placed second on the ballot and so
24 on.

25 We, we will begin with the office of District

1 Attorney in the Democratic Party, then the Republican
2 Party, followed by City Controller in the Democratic
3 Party, then the Republican Party. Once concluded,
4 we'll proceed to election board candidates for the
5 Democratic Party, followed by Republican Party. We
6 will prioritize races where the candidate or a
7 candidate's proxy is ready to draw.

8 For election board candidates, we will draw in
9 ward and division order. In each division, we will
10 draw for a judge of election before inspector of
11 election. In races where a candidate or proxy is
12 present, the candidate who has the earliest timestamp
13 on their nomination petition will draw first,
14 regardless of whether the candidate or candidate's
15 proxy with the earlier timestamp is present.

16 For offices drawn this way, if the candidate or
17 candidate's proxy is not present, a County Board of
18 Elections employee will draw on their behalf. For
19 races where there are no candidates or candidates
20 proxies ready to draw, we will use a random function
21 in Excel to assign ballot positions. The Excel
22 function will only be used for races where no
23 individual has already drawn. The Excel spreadsheet
24 will randomly assign a number between 0 and 1 to each
25 candidate.

1 The candidate with the largest number will be
2 assigned the first position on the ballot. The
3 candidate who will have the second largest number,
4 will be assigned the second position, and so on. Once
5 ballot positions have been drawn, either in person or
6 through Excel, we will not redraw for any reason.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: First, we have Democratic
8 District Attorney Larry Krasner. Larry Krasner has
9 drawn number 2, Democratic District attorney.

10 MS. ELIJAH: Wait. Got to him. Wait, guys. Got
11 to keep two out.

12 MR. KRASNER: Number 1. So it begins. Thank
13 you.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Next we have Democratic
15 Pat Dugan pulled number 1. Next we have Democratic
16 City Controller Christy Brady. Ms. Joan Meehan will
17 be pulling for her.

18 MS. BRADY: Number 2.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Christy Brady has drawn
20 ball number 2.

21 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Dang it. Excuse me. Hold on
22 one second.

23 MS. BRADY: It's number one this time.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Wow. Yay. What a
25 surprise. Christy Brady has drawn ball number 1.

1 MS. DEELEY: Christy Brady's mom drew number 1.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Next we have Republican
3 candidate Ari Patrinos for City Controller. Ari has
4 drawn ball number 1.

5 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Thank you. I appreciate that.
6 That is our last item on the agenda. Before we
7 adjourn. Commissioner Deeley, do you have any other
8 business to be raised at this meeting?

9 MS. DEELEY: I do, Chairman.

10 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Proceed.

11 MS. DEELEY: March is colorectal -- March is
12 Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. And as many of you
13 know, we lost my former Chief Deputy Tim Daling to
14 colon cancer the this time last year. Colon cancer is
15 preventable, treatable, and beatable with early and
16 regular testing to help stamp out this horrible
17 disease.

18 This Saturday, March 22, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.,
19 myself and representative Jordan Harris will be
20 hosting the Tiffany Harris and Timmy Daling Memorial
21 Colorectal Cancer Awareness and Prevention event at
22 councilmember Quetcy Lozada's Thriving Together Expo
23 Resource Fair. Staff from Penn Medicine will be on
24 hand to answer questions, provide information, and
25 distribute home testing kits to eligible patients.

1 Home testing kits are great for people who hate going
2 to the doctor.

3 But even if you are not in the eligible age
4 range, if you have symptoms or would just like to get
5 more information, you should come out because the Penn
6 Medicine staff can find you help. Colon cancer is
7 affecting younger and younger people every day.
8 Tiffany Harris was in her mid-30s when she was
9 diagnosed, and Representative Harris is now working to
10 lower the eligibility ages so that more people get
11 tested.

12 Finally, according to the American Cancer
13 Society, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause
14 of cancer death in the United States, with higher
15 rates in the black community than any other racial
16 ethnic group. Black Americans are 20 percent more
17 likely to get colorectal cancer and 40 percent more
18 likely to die of it compared to most other groups.

19 So those listening to this in the African-
20 American community, please come out to this event or
21 schedule an appointment with your doctor to get
22 tested. If I could take a moment of silence, please,
23 to remember Tiffany and Timmy Daling at this time,
24 Chairman. Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Thank you, vice-chair Deeley.

1 Secretary Bluestein, you have any other business to be
2 related to this meeting?

3 MR. BLUESTEIN: I have nothing to add. Thank
4 you, Chairman.

5 MS. ELIJAH: Chairman, I just want to make sure
6 nobody forgot to sign in. If anybody wanted to pull
7 for election board workers. I want to make sure
8 nobody's here.

9 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. Were there anyone here
10 that wanted to sign for election board workers
11 present?

12 MS. ELIJAH: No. Okay.

13 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Thank you. Well, I would like
14 to thank staff. This is a time honored process which
15 occurred today. It's the Horn & Hardart Coffee can.
16 Affectionately known as the can of destiny. For over
17 40 years, this iconic relic, Philadelphia's past, has
18 been used in ballot drawings to assure a fair and
19 impartial selection of candidate positions. I could
20 thank our staff as always.

21 And you know, people say that these elections are
22 off year elections. I say these elections are on. So
23 please remind family and friends our critical
24 selection is on Tuesday, May the 20th. I'd like to
25 make a motion to adjourn today's meeting. Is there a

1 second?

2 MS. DEELEY: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please to
4 order. Vice-chair Deeley.

5 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

6 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman Sabir.

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. This meeting is adjourned.

8 (The meeting was adjourned.)

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTIONIST

I, STEPHEN OMONDI, Legal Transcriptionist, do
hereby certify:

That the foregoing is a complete and true
transcription of the original digital audio recording
of the testimony and proceedings captured in the
above-entitled matter. As the transcriptionist, I
have reviewed and transcribed the entirety of the
original digital audio recording of the proceeding to
ensure a verbatim record to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am neither attorney for
nor a relative or employee of any of the parties to
the action; further, that I am not a relative or
employee of any attorney employed by the parties
hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the
outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
this 18th day of March, 2025.



Stephen Omondi

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| <hr/> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>6:24</p> <hr/> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>5:22 6:24 7:12,15,25 8:1,4</p> <p>11</p> <p>8:18</p> <p>11:00</p> <p>3:2</p> <p>1711</p> <p>3:22</p> <p>1799</p> <p>3:25</p> <p>18</p> <p>3:8</p> <p>1951</p> <p>4:3</p> <hr/> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>5:23 7:9, 18,20 8:18</p> <p>20</p> <p>9:16</p> <p>2025</p> <p>3:8 5:12, 16</p> <p>20th</p> <p>10:24</p> <p>22</p> <p>8:18</p> | <hr/> <p>4</p> <p>40</p> <p>9:17 10:17</p> <hr/> <p>9</p> <p>9:45</p> <p>4:25</p> <hr/> <p>A</p> <p>a.m.</p> <p>3:2 4:25 8:18</p> <p>accordance</p> <p>3:18</p> <p>Act</p> <p>3:10 4:18</p> <p>adaption</p> <p>4:2</p> <p>add</p> <p>10:3</p> <p>adjourn</p> <p>8:7 10:25</p> <p>adjourned</p> <p>11:7,8</p> <p>administer</p> <p>3:17</p> <p>affecting</p> <p>9:7</p> <p>Affectiona</p> <p>tely</p> <p>10:16</p> <p>African-</p> <p>9:19</p> <p>age</p> <p>9:3</p> | <p>agenda</p> <p>4:13 5:4 8:6</p> <p>ages</p> <p>9:10</p> <p>American</p> <p>9:12,20</p> <p>Americans</p> <p>9:16</p> <p>appointmen</p> <p>t</p> <p>9:21</p> <p>Ari</p> <p>8:3</p> <p>assembly</p> <p>3:22</p> <p>assign</p> <p>6:21,24</p> <p>assigned</p> <p>7:2,4</p> <p>assure</p> <p>10:18</p> <p>attacks</p> <p>4:16</p> <p>attorney</p> <p>6:1 7:8,9</p> <p>authorize</p> <p>5:19</p> <p>Awareness</p> <p>8:12,21</p> <p>aye</p> <p>11:5,6,7</p> <hr/> <p>B</p> <p>ball</p> <p>7:20,25 8:4</p> | <p>ballot</p> <p>5:5,11,16, 18,22,23 6:21 7:2,5 10:18</p> <p>beatable</p> <p>8:15</p> <p>begin</p> <p>5:3,25</p> <p>beginning</p> <p>4:5</p> <p>begins</p> <p>7:12</p> <p>behalf</p> <p>6:18</p> <p>bipartisan</p> <p>3:11</p> <p>black</p> <p>9:15,16</p> <p>Bluestein</p> <p>3:4 4:24, 25 5:7 10:1,3 11:3,6</p> <p>board</p> <p>3:8,11 5:21 6:4, 8,17 10:7, 10</p> <p>Brady</p> <p>7:16,18, 19,23,25</p> <p>Brady's</p> <p>8:1</p> <p>business</p> <p>5:3 8:8 10:1</p> | <hr/> <p>C</p> <p>call</p> <p>3:6</p> <p>cancer</p> <p>8:12,14,21 9:6,12,13, 14,17</p> <p>candidate</p> <p>5:13,18,20 6:6,11,12, 14,16,25 7:1,3 8:3 10:19</p> <p>candidate's</p> <p>6:7,14,17</p> <p>candidates</p> <p>5:17,21 6:4,8,19</p> <p>centuries</p> <p>3:24</p> <p>Chairman</p> <p>3:3,6 5:2, 8,10 7:21 8:5,9,10 9:24,25 10:4,5,9, 13 11:3,6, 7</p> <p>chance</p> <p>4:9</p> <p>charge</p> <p>3:12</p> <p>Charter</p> <p>4:3</p> <p>Chief</p> <p>8:13</p> |
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Drawing of Ballot Positions

March 18, 2025 – 11:00 A.M.

Philadelphia City Commissioners

City Hall, Room 653

1400 John F. Kennedy Blvd.

Philadelphia, PA 19107

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
 - A. In-person public comments
 - B. Report from the Secretary – Emailed public comments
- III. New Business
 - A. Drawing of Ballot Positions
- IV. Non-agenda items