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*** AUDIO TRANSCRIPTION ***

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Philadelphia City Commissioners Sunshine Meeting

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Transcribed

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By: Sandra Redavid

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Job No.: 53503

1 MR. SABIR: Good morning.

2 THE COMMISSIONERS: Good morning. Good
3 morning.

4 MR. SABIR: Before we begin, I wanted to
5 reflect that Nick Custodio is sitting in on behalf
6 of vice-chair Lisa Deeley, so she's still is
7 present for the proxy.

8 Good morning. I call to order the
9 meeting of the Philadelphia City Commissioner's
10 Board of Elections for Wednesday, April 16th, 2025.
11 This meeting is in compliance with the Pennsylvania
12 Sunshine Act. The Philadelphia City Commissioners
13 are a three-member, bipartisan board of elected
14 officials in charge of elections and voter
15 registration for the city of Philadelphia. Each
16 commissioner is elected to serve a four-year term
17 that coincides with the municipal election cycle
18 for mayor and city council. The commission is set
19 and enforced departmental policies to administer
20 voter registration and conduct elections in
21 accordance with federal and state voter
22 registration and election laws.

23 The City Commissioners were created by
24 the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1711 with a focus on
25 taxation and held various regulatory powers

1 throughout the centuries. The commissioner started
2 maintaining voter lists in 1799 and took on more
3 election-related responsibility but didn't emerge
4 into its current form until the adoption of
5 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter in 1951.

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

17 Finally, it is my responsibility to
18 preserve the order and decorum of meetings. As
19 such, profane, slanderous, discriminatory, personal
20 attacks will not be tolerated. If you wish to make
21 a public objection to a perceived sunshine
22 violation, please raise your hand, and I will
23 recognize you. Outbursts will not be tolerated.
24 Anyone offered -- anyone wishing to offer public
25 comment, please step forward.

1 Hearing none, we will now move to a
2 report from the secretary for emailed public
3 comments. Commissioner Bluestein, are there any
4 public comments? Email --

5 MR. BLUESTEIN: As of 9:45 a.m., there
6 were no email public comments.

7 MR. SABIR: Thank you very much. We will
8 now proceed to old business. First, we have a
9 report from directors administration, Mr. Joseph
10 Lynch.

11 MR. LYNCH: Good morning, Commissioners.

12 THE COMMISSIONERS: Morning. Morning.

13 MR. LYNCH: This is our public meeting
14 update for April 16, 2025, for our voter
15 registration report for the election cycle to date.
16 We have processed 89,766 voter registration
17 applications. 4,150 were paper. Delaware and
18 Spring Garden is currently reviewing all
19 applications and correcting mistakes as necessary.
20 As of Tuesday, the County Board of Elections has
21 approved 62,769 vote-by-mail and absentee
22 applications, which is 1,361 added from last week's
23 total. Of those, 38,631 are paper applications and
24 24,138 are electronic applications. This includes
25 military and civilian overseas voters. All

1 processing is currently up-to-date. Voters who
2 would like to vote by mail for the May 20th
3 municipal primary election can apply for a mail-in
4 or absentee ballot at vote.phila.gov. The deadline
5 to apply is Tuesday, May 13th at 5:00 p.m.

6 The Board Workers' Unit is continuing our
7 spring training sessions, and so far, 1,778 poll
8 workers have participated. The full schedule for
9 the -- for our election board training seminar is
10 available online at vote.phila.gov. Thanks to the
11 involved -- thanks to the Involved at 17 Program,
12 we have also been able to place 200 high school
13 students as poll workers. We continue to -- we
14 continue to confirming poll workers for the
15 election. We've already received confirmation for
16 7,267 poll workers.

17 That's all I have. Thank you.

18 MR. SABIR: Thank you.

19 Secretary Bluestein. Do you have any
20 questions?

21 MR. BLUESTEIN: I have none. Thank you.

22 MR. SABIR: Nick -- Deputy Custodio, do
23 you have any questions?

24 MR. CUSTODIO: I have none.

25 MR. SABIR: Thank you, Joe.

1 That completes our old business. We will
2 now proceed to new business. We'll begin by
3 considering our first agenda item. We'll hear from
4 our polling place investigation supervisor, Charles
5 Stroman.

6 MR. STROMAN: Good morning,
7 Commissioners.

8 MR. SABIR: Good morning.

9 MR. STROMAN: I have 13 on the agenda
10 today. The first three will be in the 21st Ward,
11 the 19th Division, the 20th Division, and the 27th
12 Division, all moving from the Epic Church to the
13 Roxborough Memorial Hospital, and that is due to a
14 refusal.

15 MR. SABIR: Having heard the
16 recommendation of professional staff, I move that
17 we accept the polling place change for Ward 21,
18 Division 19, 20, and 27. Is there a second?

19 THE COMMISSIONERS: Second.

20 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please
21 call the roll.

22 MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice-chair Deeley.

23 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

24 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
25 Sabir.

1 MR. SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

2 MR. STROMAN: Next three will be in the
3 25th Ward, the 4th Division, the 5th Division, and
4 the 7th Division, all moving from Richmond Library
5 to the Richmond Elementary School, and that is due
6 to a refusal for a rebuild project.

7 MR. SABIR: Having heard the
8 recommendation of the professional staff, I move
9 that we accept the polling place change for Ward
10 25, Division 4, 5, and 7. Is there a second?

11 THE COMMISSIONERS: Second.

12 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please
13 call the roll.

14 MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice-chair Deeley.

15 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

16 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote Aye. Chairman
17 Sabir.

18 MR. SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

19 MR. STROMAN: Next one will be in the
20 27th Ward, the 2nd Division, moving from HMS School
21 to the Penn Alexander School, and that is due to a
22 refusal due to scheduling conflict.

23 MR. SABIR: Having heard the
24 recommendation of the professional staff, I move
25 that we accept the polling place change for Ward

1 27, Division 2. Is there a second?

2 THE COMMISSIONERS: Second.

3 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please
4 call the roll.

5 MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice-chair Deeley.

6 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

7 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
8 Sabir.

9 MR. SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

10 MR. STROMAN: Next one will be in the
11 29th Ward, the 2nd Division, moving out of the
12 Sharswood Townhouse II to the Vaux Big Picture High
13 School. It's a PHA area. That's due to a refusal
14 for a rebuild project.

15 MR. SABIR: Having heard the
16 recommendation of the professional staff, I move
17 that we accept the polling place change for Ward
18 29, Division 2. Is there a second?

19 THE COMMISSIONERS: Second.

20 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please
21 call the roll.

22 MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice-chair Deeley.

23 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

24 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
25 Sabir.

1 MR. SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

2 MR. STROMAN: Next two will be in the
3 51st Ward, the 2nd Division, and the 7th Division,
4 both moving out of Mastery Hardy Williams Charter
5 School to the Kingessing Branch Library, and
6 that's back to the original location.

7 MR. SABIR: Having heard the
8 recommendation of the professional staff, I move
9 that we accept the polling place change for Ward
10 51, Division 2, and Division 2nd -- 7th. Is there
11 a second?

12 THE COMMISSIONERS: Second.

13 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please
14 call the roll.

15 MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice-chair Deeley.

16 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

17 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
18 Sabir.

19 MR. SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

20 MR. STROMAN: Next one will be in the
21 51st Ward again in the 5th Division, moving out of
22 Comegys School to the Kingessing Branch Library
23 back to the original location.

24 MR. SABIR: Having heard the
25 recommendation of the professional staff, I move

1 that we accept the polling place change for Ward
2 51, Division 5. Is there a second?

3 THE COMMISSIONERS: Second. Second.

4 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please
5 call a roll.

6 MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice-chair Deeley.

7 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

8 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
9 Sabir.

10 MR. SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

11 MR. STROMAN: Next one will be in the
12 52nd Ward, 13th Division, moving out of Settlement
13 Music School West to the Fairview Arms Apartments,
14 and that is due to refusal due to a scheduling
15 conflict.

16 MR. SABIR: Having heard the
17 recommendation of the professional staff, I move
18 that we accept the polling place change for Ward
19 52nd, Division 13. Is there a second?

20 THE COMMISSIONERS: Second.

21 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please
22 call the roll.

23 MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice-chair Deeley.

24 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

25 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman

1 Sabir.

2 MR. SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

3 MR. STROMAN: Last one will be in the
4 52nd Ward again, the 24th Division, moving out of
5 United Christian Mission Church to the Winfield
6 Place, and that is due to a refusal.

7 MR. SABIR: Having heard the
8 recommendation of the professional staff, I move
9 that we accept the polling place change for Ward
10 52nd, Division 24. Is there a second?

11 THE COMMISSIONERS: Second.

12 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please
13 call the roll.

14 MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice-chair Deeley.

15 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

16 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
17 Sabir.

18 MR. SABIR: Aye. All right. Thank you,
19 Charlie.

20 MR. STROMAN: You're welcome.

21 MR. SABIR: Appreciate that. Okay. This
22 is -- that was the last item on our agenda. Before
23 we adjourn, deputy Custodio, do you have any
24 business to raise at this meeting?

25 MR. CUSTODIO: I do not.

1 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, do you
2 have any other business to raise at this meeting?

3 MR. BLUESTEIN: I do not. Thank you.

4 MR. SABIR: Hearing no other business, I
5 motion to adjourn today's meeting. Is there a
6 second?

7 THE COMMISSIONERS: Second.

8 MR. SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please
9 call the roll.

10 MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice-chair Deeley.

11 MS. DEELEY: Aye.

12 MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
13 Sabir.

14 MR. SABIR: Aye. This meeting is
15 adjourned.

16 (End of audio recording.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTIONIST

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3 I, SANDRA REDAVID, do hereby certify:

4

5 That the foregoing is a complete and
6 accurate transcript of the digital audio recording
7 of the testimony and proceedings captured in the
8 above-entitled matter, all to the best of my skills
9 and ability.

10

11 I further certify that I am not related
12 to any of the parties to this action, nor their
13 respective counsel, by blood or marriage and that I
14 am in no way interested in the outcome of this
15 matter.

16

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

19

20

Sandra Redavid

21

22 SANDRA REDAVID

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