

1 PHILADELPHIA CITY COMMISSIONERS

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9 RETURN BOARD MEETING

10

Monday, May 13, 2024

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12:00 p.m.

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ATTENDANCE

- Chairman - Omar Sabir
- Deputy to the Chair - Vincent Gowans
- Vice-Chair - Lisa Deeley
- Deputy to Vice-Chair - Nicholas Custodio
- Commissioner - Seth Bluestein
- Deputy - Eric Kapenstein
- Director of Operations - Joseph Lynch
- Director of Administrations - Stephanie Reed

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

2 (12:00 p.m.)

3 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Good morning or good afternoon,
4 I should say. I call to order the meeting of the
5 Philadelphia City Commissioners Board of Election for
6 Monday, May 13, 2024. This meeting is in compliance
7 under the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. The Philadelphia
8 City Commissioners are a three member bipartisan board
9 of elected officials in charge of elections and board
10 of registration for the county of Philadelphia. Each
11 commissioner is elected to serve a four year term that
12 coincides with the municipal election for mayor and
13 city council.

14 The commissioners set and enforced departmental
15 policies to administer voter registration and conduct
16 elections in accordance with federal and state voter
17 registration and election laws. The city
18 commissioners were created by the Pennsylvania
19 Assembly in 1711 with a focus on taxation that held
20 various regulatory powers throughout the centuries.

21 The commissioner started manning voting, started
22 maintaining voter list in 1799, and took on more
23 election related responsibilities, but didn't emerge
24 in its current form until the adoption of the
25 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter in 1951.

1 We will start off with public comments. Before
2 beginning their comments, commenter's shall state
3 where they live or if they are not a resident of
4 Philadelphia and that they are a Philadelphia
5 taxpayer. Public comment is not an opportunity for
6 dialogue or Q and A, it is public comment. A chance
7 for you to tell us what you think.

8 Each speaker will have two minutes to speak,
9 however, I may extend the time at my discretion.
10 Public comment must concern matters on today's meeting
11 agenda.

12 Finally, it is my responsibility to preserve the
13 order and decorum of the meetings. As such, profane,
14 slanderous, discriminatory, or personal attacks will
15 not be tolerated. If you wish to make a public
16 objection to a perceived Sunshine violation, please
17 raise your hand and I will recognize you. Outbursts
18 will not be tolerated.

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

21 (Pause.)

22 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Hearing none, we will now move
23 to email public comment. We will move to a report
24 from our secretary for any email public comments.
25 Secretary Bluestein, are there any emailed public

1 comments?

2 SECRETARY BLUESTEIN: There were no public
3 comments emailed by 10:45 a.m.

4 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Thank you. We will now move to
5 new business. Signing of the certification.

6 (Signing of certification.)

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: We will now move to the other
8 portion of our agenda. Vice-Chairwoman Deeley, do you
9 have any other business to be raised at this meeting?

10 VICE-CHAIR DEELEY: I have none. Thank you,

11 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, do you have
12 any other business to be raised at this meeting?

13 SECRETARY BLUESTEIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
14 have none.

15 CHAIRMAN SABIR: I have a little bit of business,
16 will be very short and brief. I would like to first
17 thank and congratulate my colleagues, Vice-Chairwoman
18 Deeley, Secretary Bluestein and their staff for a
19 successful election. Your work and support is
20 appreciated. I would like to thank the Board of
21 Election staff for their tireless work, your
22 knowledge, professionalism, and dedication inspire me
23 each day.

24 Many of you in work that you do goes unnoticed.
25 But I want you to know that I see you and I thank you.

1 I would like to extend a special thank you to our
2 thousands of poll workers. You are truly the lifeline
3 of democracy. This election is a simple reminder that
4 elections in Philadelphia County are simple, safe, and
5 secure.

6 I'm calling on all eligible Philadelphia citizens
7 to vote on Tuesday, November 5th, general election.
8 We should always remember that the more we vote, the
9 more we get. I motion to adjourn this meeting. Is
10 there a second?

11 VICE-CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call
13 a roll.

14 SECRETARY BLUESTEIN: Vice-Chair Deeley?

15 VICE-CHAIR DEELEY: Aye.

16 SECRETARY BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
17 Sabir?

18 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. This meeting is adjourned.

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20 (Meeting adjourned - end of audio.)

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTIONIST

I, NINA ADISA, 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 12th day of October, 2024.



Nina Adisa

<hr/>	Assembly	Charter	created	emerge
1	3:19	3:25	3:18	3:23
10:45	attacks	city	current	enforced
5:3	4:14	3:5,8,13, 17	3:24	3:14
12:00	<hr/>	coincides	<hr/>	extend
3:2	B	3:12	D	4:9
13	beginning	colleagues	day	<hr/>
3:6	4:2	5:17	5:23	F
1711	bipartisan	comment	decorum	federal
3:19	3:8	4:5,6,10, 19,23	4:13	3:16
1799	bit	commenter'	dedication	Finally
3:22	5:15	s	5:22	4:12
1951	Bluestein	4:2	Deeley	focus
3:25	4:25 5:2, 11,13,18	comments	5:8,10,18	3:19
<hr/>	board	4:1,2,24	department	form
2	3:5,8,9	5:1,3	al	3:24
2024	5:20	commission	3:14	forward
3:6	business	er	dialogue	4:20
<hr/>	5:5,9,12, 15	3:11,21	4:6	<hr/>
A	<hr/>	commission	discretion	G
a.m.	C	ers	4:9	good
5:3	call	3:5,8,14, 18	discrimina	3:3
accordance	3:4	compliance	tory	<hr/>
3:16	centuries	3:6	4:14	H
Act	3:20	concern	<hr/>	hand
3:7	certificat	4:10	E	4:17
administer	ion	conduct	elected	Hearing
3:15	5:5,6	3:15	3:9,11	4:22
adoption	Chairman	congratula	election	held
3:24	3:3 4:22	te	3:5,12,17, 23 5:19,21	3:19
afternoon	5:4,7,11, 13,15	5:17	elections	Home
3:3	chance	council	3:9,16	3:25
agenda	4:6	3:13	email	<hr/>
4:11 5:8	charge	county	4:23,24	I
appreciate	3:9	3:10	emailed	inspire
d			4:25 5:3	5:22
5:20				

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knowledge	3:3		4:3	3:21
5:22	move	policies	responsibi	state
	4:22,23	3:15	lities	3:16 4:2
<hr/> L	5:4,7	portion	3:23	step
laws	municipal	5:8	responsibi	4:20
3:17	3:12	powers	lity	successful
list	<hr/> O	3:20	Rule	5:19
3:22	objection	preserve	3:25	Sunshine
live	4:16	4:12		3:7 4:16
4:3	offer	profane	<hr/> S	support
	4:19	4:13	SABIR	5:19
<hr/> M	officials	profession	3:3 4:22	<hr/> T
maintainin	3:9	alism	5:4,7,11, 15	taxation
g	opportunit	public	secretary	3:19
3:22	y	4:1,5,6, 10,15,19, 23,24,25	4:24,25	taxpayer
make	4:5	5:2	5:2,11,13, 18	4:5
4:15	order		serve	term
manning	3:4 4:13	<hr/> R	3:11	3:11
3:21	Outbursts	raise	set	time
matters	4:17	4:17	3:14	4:9
4:10	<hr/> P	raised	short	tireless
mayor	p.m.	5:9,12	5:16	5:21
3:12	3:2	recognize	signing	today's
meeting	Pause	4:17	5:5,6	4:10
3:4,6 4:10	4:21	registrati	slanderous	tolerated
5:9,12	Pennsylvan	on	4:14	4:15,18
meetings	ia	3:10,15,17	speak	<hr/> U
4:13	3:7,18	regulatory	4:8	unnoticed
member	perceived	3:20	speaker	5:24
3:8	4:16	related	4:8	<hr/> V
minutes	personal	3:23	staff	VICE-CHAIR
4:8	4:14	report	5:18,21	5:10
Monday	Philadelph	4:23	start	
3:6	ia		4:1	

**Vice-
chairwoman**

5:8,17

violation

4:16

voter

3:15,16,22

voting

3:21

W

wishing

4:19

work

5:19,21,24

Y

year

3:11



May 13, 2024

12:00pm

City Commissioners
11311 Roosevelt Blvd
Philadelphia, PA 19154

- I. Call to order the return board meeting of Monday, May 13, 2024
- II. Public Comment
 - a. In-Person Public Comments
 - b. Report from the Secretary – Emailed Public Comment
- III. New Business
 - A. Signing of Certification
 - B. Additional non-agenda items
- IV. Adjourned to the call of the chair