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PHILADELPHIA CITY COMMISSIONERS

SUNSHINE MEETING

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

11:00 a.m.

Job No.: 48740

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ATTENDANCE

OMAR SABIR, CHAIRMAN
KHALIF CHESTNUT, SIT-IN FOR DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR,
VINCENT GOWANS
LISA DEELEY, VICE-CHAIR
NICHOLAS CUSTODIO, DEPUTY TO VICE-CHAIR
SETH BLUESTEIN, COMMISSIONER
ERIC KAPENSTEIN, DEPUTY
JOSEPH LYNCH, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
STEPHANIE REED, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIONS
DANA ECKROADE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMPLIANCE

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

2 (11:00 a.m.)

3 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Good morning.

4 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Good morning.

5 CHAIRMAN SABIR: I'm going to call to order the
6 meeting of the Philadelphia City Commissioners Board
7 of Election for Wednesday, October 9th, 2024. This
8 meeting is in compliance with the Pennsylvania
9 Sunshine Act. The Philadelphia City Commissioners are
10 a three-member bipartisan board of elected officials
11 in charge of elections and voter registration for the
12 City of Philadelphia.

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

20 The city commissioners were created by the
21 Pennsylvania Assembly in 1711 with a focus on taxation
22 and held various regulatory powers throughout the
23 centuries. The commissioners started maintaining
24 voter lists in 1799 and took on more election related
25 responsibilities but didn't emerge in its current form

1 until the adoption of Philadelphia's Home Rule Charter
2 in 1951.

3 We will start off with public comments. Before
4 beginning their comments, commenters shall state where
5 they live or if they are not a resident of
6 Philadelphia and that they are a Philadelphia
7 taxpayer.

8 Public comment is not an opportunity for dialogue
9 or Q&A. It is public comment, a chance for you to
10 tell us what you think. Each speaker will have two
11 minutes to speak. However, I may extend the time at
12 my discretion. Public comment must concern matters on
13 today's meeting agenda.

14 Finally, it is my responsibility to preserve the
15 order and decorum of the meeting as such. Profane,
16 slander story, discriminatory, or 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.

21 Anyone wishing to offer public comment, please
22 step forward. Having no public comments, we will now
23 move to a report from Secretary for email public
24 comments. Commissioner Bluestein, are there any email
25 public comments?

1 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Yes, there was one email
2 public comment. That comment was emailed by 9:45 a.m.
3 and shared with the commissioners and deputies at
4 10:00 a.m., and have been provided to each
5 commissioner at the beginning of this meeting. They
6 are also available at the public comment table.

7 This comment was from Michael Swayze related to
8 the efforts by the commissioners to notify voters of
9 ballot deficiencies and what they can do to correct
10 those vote -- those errors. I've reviewed the comment
11 and I ask that it be moved into the record.

12 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have also reviewed it and
13 agree that it should be moved into the record.

14 CHAIRMAN SABIR: I also reviewed it and please
15 move it into the record. We will now proceed to old
16 business. First, we have a report from our directors
17 of election of administration and operations, Mr.
18 Joseph Lynch and Mrs. Stephanie Reed. Joe, start off
19 with you.

20 MR. LYNCH: Morning commissioners.

21 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Good morning.

22 MR. LYNCH: This is our Sunshine update for
23 October 9th, 2024. The warehouse unit has been
24 working to prepare machines for the general election
25 for our voter registration report. The election cycle

1 to date, we have processed 353,863 voter registration
2 applications. 187,850 of those applications were
3 paper. As of right now, they have a backlog of 3,700
4 applications. Delaware and Spring Garden is currently
5 working to eliminate the backlog and making necessary
6 corrections.

7 As of Tuesday, they have approved 169,456 Vote by
8 Mail and Absentee applications, which is 14,645 added
9 from last week's total. Of those, 87,484 are paper
10 applications and 81,972 are electronic applications.
11 This includes military, civilian overseas, and federal
12 voters. They are -- we currently have a total of
13 1,624 applications waiting to be processed. Of those,
14 403 are paper applications and 1,221 are electronic
15 applications.

16 As of October 8th, we had sent out -- sent out
17 166,654 Vote by Mail ballots for the 2024 general
18 election. Voters who have not yet received their
19 ballot or need a replacement can visit our website to
20 request a replacement ballot or visit one of our
21 satellite offices for assistance.

22 ID verification letters have gone out to voters
23 to either -- who either did not include the required
24 proof of identification on their Absentee/Mail-in
25 ballot application or their proof of identification

1 could not be verified by the County Board of
2 Elections. Voters who have received this letter may
3 submit their proof of ID to the County Board of
4 Elections via email at phillyelections@phila.com, fax,
5 US Mail, telephone, or in person. Voters have until
6 5:00 p.m., on Nov 12th to return their proof of
7 identification for the general election.

8 Our satellite office in city hall room 140 is now
9 open. Voters can, can request a Mail-in or a
10 replacement ballot in person and, and return it all at
11 the same visit. Office hours are Monday through
12 Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday
13 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Voters who would like to vote
14 by mail for the November 5th general election can
15 apply for a Mail-in Absentee ballot at vote.phila.gov,
16 the deadline will apply is Tuesday, October 29th at
17 5:00 p.m.

18 The Palm Place Unit is working on confirming
19 locations for the November 5th General Election.
20 Presently they have confirmed 372 of 374 private
21 locations. Public locations have been approved aside
22 from any rebuild projects. There won't be any more
23 proposals to relocate, relocate after Friday at noon
24 due to notifications needed to go out no later than
25 Friday's, Friday's business day.

1 The final hearing will be October 16th, which is
2 the late -- the last day to propose a change to the
3 commissioners without a court order. The Election
4 Board -- the Election Board unit is working on
5 confirming board workers through calls and emails.
6 They have 7,398 confirmed so far, but 795 have
7 declined and they've less 428 voicemails. In a
8 general election training session, 1,797 board workers
9 attended and 2,245 confirmed for scheduled training --
10 scheduled training.

11 We have a total of eight satellite offices open
12 to the public seven days a week. On Friday, October
13 11th at 11:00 a.m., we have a grand opening at 6100
14 Woodland Avenue. The 6420 Frankfurt Ave office will
15 be open by this weekend to the public with a press
16 event scheduled for Tuesday, October 15th at 9:00 a.m.
17 You can find a list of all satellite election offices
18 open to the public and hours on our website,
19 vote.phila.gov. That's all I have. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Thank you, Joe. Vice Chair, did
21 you have any questions for Joe?

22 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none. Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary, do you have any
24 questions?

25 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none. Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. I have a question for you
2 Joe, but I'll wait till after Stephanie do it. I
3 guess maybe both of you all can maybe address it.

4 MS. REED: All right. Good morning,
5 commissioners.

6 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Good morning.

7 MS. REED: I'm pleased to address you today and
8 share updates from our administration report for
9 October 9th, 2024. This past week, with only four
10 weeks to go, we continued our preparations for the
11 general election.

12 In budget and procurement, the team has been
13 focused on the normal processing of invoices and
14 purchase orders, addressing any related issues as they
15 arise. We're working with procurement to get our
16 final orders approved for the general election.

17 In communications, we've been designing requested
18 materials including social media graphics, updated
19 procedures, documents, and signage for the warehouse
20 and city hall. Requested updates were also completed
21 for Pack Your Ballot posters, the department's Atlas
22 tool and one pagers for our SEOs, satellite election
23 offices.

24 Additionally, we've been planning for general
25 election communications, including sessions with our

1 consultants and providing input for the paid media
2 campaign.

3 Regarding engagement, we're distributing
4 materials at the Hung Child Tye Hair Salon, Cambodian
5 Buddhist Society Temple, Oregon Market, and First
6 Oriental Market. Our efforts also involve sharing
7 flyers for poll workers and interpreters, encouraging
8 voter registration, recruiting bilingual interpreters,
9 and engaging with the community through feedback and
10 questions at events.

11 We continue identifying hair salons, temples, and
12 churches where we can distribute election materials.
13 We're scheduled to table at four community events in
14 the coming week.

15 In human resources we are currently hiring for 23
16 temps. As of now, our total workforce stands at 214
17 employees, with 180 in civil service and 34 exempt.
18 This includes 56 clerk ones, 33 clerk twos, 17 clerk
19 threes, nine trades helpers, nine voting machine
20 techs, and 37 temps.

21 We are continuing with new hire activities and
22 preparing for upcoming orientations. Our IT team
23 continues to work on setting up all IT components for
24 our last two satellite election offices. They've been
25 updating surveys and signup forms, posting notices,

1 and maintaining our website. They've also begun
2 creating the call center, asset retrieval center, and
3 poll worker dashboard. The team is finishing new
4 phone setup with the help of surge staffing from the
5 city.

6 With four short weeks until the general election,
7 our staff are working well together to solve
8 challenges as they arise. I'm impressed with the
9 continued growth and collaboration that's occurring
10 and thank our staff for showing up every day and
11 giving their best.

12 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Thank you. Vice Chair, did you
13 have any questions?

14 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I do not. Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary, do you have any
16 questions?

17 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I do not. Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Stephanie, I just had one
19 question, I guess, going back to procurement. How's
20 everything going with the scanners?

21 MS. REED: So, not good.

22 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Not good?

23 MS. REED: Not good at all. And the reason is
24 because there are only two scanners that are approved
25 by the Department of State, and the one that we have

1 been using was at the end of life, so the manufacturer
2 does not have any more. We have tried a number of
3 different things to get them and have not had any
4 success, but it's because we can't even find any to
5 buy, is the problem.

6 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. So we need to maybe
7 schedule something after that. And I thank you all,
8 but now it's time to activate the commissioners, see
9 what magic we could pull.

10 MS. REED: Yeah.

11 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Because we need some scanners,
12 so we need to figure it out. Vice Chair --

13 MS. REED: Because they can't get any either.

14 CHAIRMAN SABIR: -- do you have any questions?

15 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I, I do not.

16 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay, then. I heard you
17 talking, just want to make sure you're good. Okay.
18 And I guess both of you, there's an issue with a drop
19 box over at Fairmount. Is the drop box -- I know that
20 the drop box is not open right now, right? Okay.

21 MS. REED: No.

22 CHAIRMAN SABIR: So do we have any idea when it's
23 going to be open? What were the issues? That way we
24 could sort of like, you know --

25 MR. LYNCH: We have numerous IT people out there

1 looking at -- it's -- what's happening is it's going
2 up, it's going down. We -- it goes -- when it goes
3 down we put our official sign on there, and then it
4 goes back up. We go out, take the sign down, and then
5 it goes back down again. So we're just leaving it
6 down until we get it fixed right.

7 There's something going on -- I know our IT
8 department has been working hard and diligently on it
9 along with other city agencies to try and find out
10 what the problem is.

11 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. So I was told that
12 streets department was more or less the --

13 MR. LYNCH: Streets. Yeah. They're going out
14 there also. They're trying to find out why it keeps
15 dropping. Yeah.

16 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. Because I've been
17 receiving a lot of phone calls and a lot of emails
18 about this.

19 MR. LYNCH: Yeah. And, and I, I appreciate, but
20 we, we put a official sign on there in trilingual
21 languages and pointing them in the right direction on
22 our website to go to the closest drop box to take. I
23 mean, that's probably one of our busiest drop boxes
24 and it's a shame. Yeah.

25 CHAIRMAN SABIR: So again, I just want you all to

1 know that you have a resource with us. Whatever it is
2 that we could do to be helpful or escalate, whatever
3 we need to escalate. Because I do understand that
4 there are different things with the different
5 departments.

6 MS. REED: Yeah. There hasn't been a hold up on
7 anybody responding. They've been incredibly
8 responsive. It's that everything that we've changed
9 which -- so we started with the -- we've looked at
10 the, the camera has been replaced, the power source
11 has been replaced. The -- I forget -- the nib has
12 been replaced.

13 So like we're going through those steps and what
14 happens is it looks like it'll fix it for a minute and
15 then it starts having the problem again. So then we
16 call the other department out and they have been very
17 responsive. They are trying the last thing right now.
18 And I think everyone should have a detailed email from
19 Jeff that he sent before this meeting outlining all of
20 this.

21 CHAIRMAN SABIR: I don't have it. And again --

22 MS. REED: Okay.

23 CHAIRMAN SABIR: -- even something serious as
24 that.

25 MS. REED: Yeah.

1 CHAIRMAN SABIR: You know, that deserves a
2 meeting. That deserve -- deserves a phone call. You
3 know, all these different things that we want to work
4 on. We don't want to just, you know, brush past that.
5 That's all.

6 MS. REED: Yeah. So they're do -- they're doing
7 the last thing right now. And after that, I don't
8 know what else to do, to be honest. I mean, it is a
9 real -- it's a real situation because they can't
10 figure out why it keeps going down.

11 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. So again, we need to
12 schedule a meeting after this. I mean, with the
13 deputies and we need to -- definitely need to button
14 up on that to make sure that that's there. But again,
15 any issues that come, I want you to know that the
16 commissioners are your friends and, you know, we're
17 going to -- we're going to get through this. Okay.

18 MR. LYNCH: Okay. I think Commissioner Deeley
19 has a comment.

20 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Vice Chair?

21 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Thank you. I would just ask
22 that in the future if there is a camera that goes down
23 or a box that is unavailable to the voters, if we
24 could get some notification of that prior to the
25 voters calling us and asking us why the box isn't

1 working, because that's how we found out about it.

2 So there should be communication, you know,
3 immediately as soon as that is recognized, whatever
4 the problem is. And I know there -- problems come up,
5 but there should have been a communication immediately
6 that said the box at such -- at Fairmount, at the
7 Eastern State Penitentiary has been out of commission.
8 We put a sign up. We'll keep you updated. It should
9 have never -- it should never be that we're -- it's
10 down and then we find out about it. Thank you.

11 MR. LYNCH: Yes, Commissioner. That was brought
12 to my attention by the chairman too. He told me
13 Saturday to let it -- let you know. So we've been --
14 we've been sending notifications out from the IT
15 department, but -- and like I said with, with this one
16 at, at, at Eastern State, it keeps going up and down,
17 up and down. So we're just going to stay on top of
18 it.

19 And just to be honest with you, I would just
20 leave it down until we rectified a problem instead of
21 keep going out there, pulling the sign off, opening
22 it, closing it, just leave it down. They're just
23 going to have to go to another, another box which,
24 which isn't far. They can go to Delaware and Spring
25 Garden.

1 And if it was my -- if it was up to me, I'd move
2 it to 17th and Fairmount where there's a health clinic
3 there and it's a city running agency, and I'm sure
4 they have cameras out there that work and we can put
5 it out there. But that's my opinion and yes, we will
6 let everybody know. We -- I apologize. That was me.
7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN SABIR: So you said 17th and Fairmount
9 is your recommendation?

10 MS. REED: And I would just say that after
11 talking to our IT director this morning, I think that
12 if what they're trying right now doesn't work, that is
13 the next step, because the only -- they've like --
14 then they've isolated every different thing and they
15 can't figure out why. So that would be the next
16 recommendation.

17 CHAIRMAN SABIR: So how far is 17th and Fairmount
18 from the drop box?

19 MR. LYNCH: It's probably like two blocks down,
20 down the road.

21 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Two blocks down? Okay.

22 MR. LYNCH: Yeah. But I don't know because it's
23 -- only because it's this late in the game, but you
24 can still do it.

25 CHAIRMAN SABIR: I think it's a possibility.

1 What's the possibility of us putting a new drop box
2 there?

3 MR. LYNCH: Like I would actually move that box
4 to 17th and Fairmount if we can. We'd have to get the
5 okay from the Health Department.

6 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. Vice Chair?

7 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I would respectfully say that
8 moving a drop box at this late in the game is not a
9 good idea. Why don't we work together to see if we
10 can get it up and running? It's been running in the
11 past. We haven't had this issue. So I'm sure,
12 although I don't know much about technology when it
13 comes to drop boxes, but I know that that drop box has
14 been functioning without issue for years now. So it
15 shouldn't be hard for us to get it back up. Thank
16 you.

17 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary?

18 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Thank you, Chairman.
19 One option we might consider if the technology doesn't
20 get up and running is turning it into a manned drop
21 box, where for eight hours, you can have a team of two
22 people at the box. That way it can be open, so you
23 can allow people to drop their ballots off and then
24 close it when they leave. It's just as a last case
25 scenario, maybe for consideration, just to make sure

1 that voters can get their ballots dropped off.

2 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Well, I mean, I don't know how
3 you all feel about this, I mean, but if we have the
4 manpower, I mean, I think we might -- could maybe pit
5 some staff people out. I mean, today while it's down.
6 I mean, I just have a concern if that's one of our
7 busiest drop boxes, to actually have someone there to
8 actually receive the ballots.

9 MR. LYNCH: Well, I'll tell you right now, if you
10 -- if we stand out there with a bag, there's a
11 possibility that people don't want to give us their
12 ballot. Yeah. So, I mean, I've had people come here
13 and I say, "Here, I'll take your ballot." They don't
14 trust -- they don't trust anyone. They want to put it
15 in a box. So -- and to be honest, we really don't
16 have the manpower to have people standing out there
17 for eight hours a day.

18 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: (indiscernible).

19 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Hold on one second. One at a
20 time. Vice Chair.

21 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Yeah. I want to be really
22 clear about this. I don't want us to get in the habit
23 of manning a drop box. Let's get a solution. Manning
24 a drop box opens up a whole bunch of a can of worms.
25 Let's get a solution to fix a drop box that has been

1 working without issue for years. Thank you.

2 MR. LYNCH: And we are working on it. And that
3 tells you if it's been working for years, maybe
4 something went down. We just got to find where the
5 glitch is, you know. And then if it has to be down
6 for a day or two, this sign tells you go to the
7 website, you can go somewhere else to put -- to put
8 your ballot in a drop box. So that's, that's my
9 opinion.

10 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Are we going --

11 MR. LYNCH: 11 and November 5th, there's polling
12 places that are open also.

13 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Oh, we got that. But again, we
14 are state regulating -- state mandated to do these
15 things. So again, we'll have, I guess, conversation
16 with the deputies, emergency meeting to see what can
17 we do to make sure that this box will be open.

18 And again, echo the sentiments of Vice Chair
19 Deeley. I'm not a tech person, but I got other
20 qualities as well to make sure that we get this open.
21 So that's not an option. The citizens, Fairmount will
22 be able to, to vote the way that they like. So if
23 commissioners had any more comments on this, we'll
24 move on to new business.

25 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I don't.

1 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Ready to move on? We'll now
2 proceed to new business. We will begin by considering
3 our first agenda item. A motion to authorize the
4 professional staff to establish mobile drop box
5 location events. I motion to authorize the
6 professional staff to establish mobile drop box
7 events. Is there a second?

8 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Commissioners, do you have any
10 comments?

11 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

12 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

13 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. Secretary Bluestein, can
14 you please call the roll?

15 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

16 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

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

19 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. The motion passes. And I
20 guess maybe we also can give the deputies to come up
21 with the locations soon. Let's get them out public
22 and then maybe even over in that area. We may even
23 have more mobile events over there since they had
24 their time down (indiscernible).

25 MR. LYNCH: Earlier the better. Earlier the

1 better.

2 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Yeah. Yeah.

3 MR. LYNCH: Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Yeah. Okay. We will now move
5 to the next agenda item. A motion to approve the 2024
6 general election ballot canvas procedures. Is there a
7 second?

8 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Does any commissioners have any
10 comments before we proceed to vote?

11 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

12 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

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

15 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

16 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

17 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
18 Sabir?

19 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. We will now move to the
20 next meeting agenda item. Our motion to approve the
21 2024 General Absentee and Mail-in ballot application
22 challenge procedures. Is there a second?

23 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

24 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Are there any comments before we
25 vote?

1 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

2 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

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

5 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

6 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

7 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
8 Sabir?

9 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Motion passes. We will
10 now hear from our polling investigations unit
11 supervisor, Charlie Stroman.

12 MR. STROMAN: Morning, commissioners.

13 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Good morning.

14 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Good morning --

15 MR. STROMAN: Good morning, commissioners.

16 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Good morning, Charlie.

17 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Good morning, Charlie.

18 MR. STROMAN: I have 11 proposals for change.

19 The first one will be in the 13th Ward, the 23rd
20 Division, moving out of the Zion Baptist Church back
21 to the Nicetownâ€"Tioga Community branch. And that is
22 back to the original location.

23 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Having heard the recommendation
24 of professional staff, I move that we accept the
25 polling place change for Ward 13, Division 23. Is

1 there a second?

2 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Does any commissioners have any
4 comment before we vote?

5 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: None.

6 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call
8 the roll.

9 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

10 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

11 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
12 Sabir?

13 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

14 MR. STROMAN: Next one will be in the 14th Ward,
15 the 1st division, moving out of Arts and Crafts
16 Holdings to the Simpson Midtown Apartments. And that
17 is back to the original location.

18 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Having heard the recommendation
19 of the professional staff, I move that we accept the
20 polling place change for Ward 14, Division 1. Is
21 there a second?

22 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Any comments before we vote?

24 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

25 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

1 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call
2 the roll.

3 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

4 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

5 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
6 Sabir?

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

8 MR. STROMAN: Next one will be in the 14th Ward
9 again, the 7th Division, moving out of Harrison Homes
10 PHA to the Somerset Academy Early Learning Center.
11 And that is moving into its own division.

12 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Having heard the recommendation
13 of the professional staff, I move that we accept the
14 polling place change for Ward 14, Division 7. Is
15 there a second?

16 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Is there any comments before we
18 vote?

19 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

20 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

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

23 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

24 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

25 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman

1 Sabir?

2 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

3 MR. STROMAN: Next two will be in the 17th Ward,
4 the 6th Division and the 7th Division, moving out of
5 G.O.S.P. Community Center to the Mt Airy Church of God
6 In Christ. And that is due to overcrowding.

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Having heard the recommendation
8 of the professional staff, I move that we accept the
9 polling place change for Ward 17, Division 6 and 7.
10 Is there a second?

11 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Are there any comments before we
13 vote?

14 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

15 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

16 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call
17 the roll.

18 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

19 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

20 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
21 Sabir?

22 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

23 MR. STROMAN: Next two will be in the 24th Ward,
24 the 15th Division and the 16th Division. Moving out
25 of Church of Faith Incorporated to the Mt. Olive

1 Baptist Church. And that's due to a refusal.

2 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Having heard the recommendation
3 of the professional staff, I move that we accept a
4 polling place change for Ward 24, Division 15 and 16.
5 Is there a second?

6 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Are there any comments before we
8 vote?

9 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

10 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

11 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call
12 the roll.

13 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

14 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

15 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
16 Sabir?

17 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

18 MR. STROMAN: Next one will be in the 36th Ward,
19 the 9th Division, moving out of Trinity United
20 Methodist Church to the Lincoln Post 89. And that is
21 due to the church closed.

22 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Having heard the recommendation
23 of the professional staff, I move that we accept a
24 polling place change for Ward 36, Division 9. Is
25 there a second?

1 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Are there any comments before we
3 proceed to vote?

4 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

5 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

6 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call
7 the roll.

8 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

9 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

10 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
11 Sabir?

12 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

13 MR. STROMAN: Next one, in the 38th Ward, 11th
14 Division, moving out of Penn Charter Squash Courts to
15 the New Bethel AME Church. And that is due to a
16 refusal.

17 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Having heard the recommendation
18 of the professional staff, I move that we accept the
19 polling place change for Ward 38, Division 11. Is
20 there a second?

21 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

22 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Are there any comments before we
23 vote?

24 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

25 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

1 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call
2 the roll.

3 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

4 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

5 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
6 Sabir?

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

8 MR. STROMAN: Next one in 44th Ward, 16th
9 Division, moving out of West Mill Creek Rec Center to
10 the Spectrum Health at 5201 Haverford Avenue, and that
11 is moving into its own division.

12 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Having heard the recommendation
13 of the professional staff, I move that we accept
14 polling place change for Ward 44, Division 16. Is
15 there a second?

16 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Are there any comments before we
18 vote?

19 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

20 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

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

23 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

24 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

25 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman

1 Sabir?

2 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Please proceed.

3 MR. STROMAN: Last but not least, 56 Ward, 35th
4 Division, moving out of Supportive Behavioral Health
5 Resources, to American Legion Post 810. And that is
6 due to a refusal.

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Having heard the recommendation
8 of the professional staff, I move that we accept the
9 polling place change for Ward 56, Division 35. Is
10 there a second?

11 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Are there any comments before we
13 vote?

14 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

15 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

16 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call
17 the roll.

18 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

19 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I vote aye.

20 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
21 Sabir?

22 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. Thank you, Charlie. And
23 just for the record, when you say refusal, what
24 exactly does that mean?

25 MR. STROMAN: They refused.

1 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. That's it.

2 MR. STROMAN: Simply that.

3 CHAIRMAN SABIR: They refused and so --

4 MR. STROMAN: Yeah, they refused.

5 CHAIRMAN SABIR: -- the landlord has --

6 MR. STROMAN: Doesn't want to do it anymore.

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: -- doesn't want to do it

8 anymore.

9 MR. STROMAN: Right.

10 CHAIRMAN SABIR: So it's not the commissioners,
11 just --

12 MR. STROMAN: Sometimes, like a church closed or
13 something. But sometimes they'll just say, "I just
14 don't want to do it anymore."

15 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Right. Just, you know, because
16 sometimes our constituents, sometimes they think that
17 the commissioners are the one that unilaterally moved
18 to polling locations. But that's not the case,
19 correct?

20 MR. STROMAN: We never look to do it unless we
21 have to for sure.

22 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Thank you. Thank you.

23 MR. STROMAN: You're welcome.

24 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Thank you. Thank you. That's
25 the last item on our agenda, Secretary -- I mean, Vice

1 Chair Deeley, do you have any other business to be
2 raised at this meeting?

3 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: I have none.

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

6 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I do not.

7 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Okay. I make a motion that we
8 adjourn this meeting. Is there a second?

9 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call
11 the roll.

12 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

13 VICE CHAIR DEELEY: Aye.

14 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman
15 Sabir?

16 CHAIRMAN SABIR: Aye. This meeting's adjourned.
17 (Meeting adjourned.)

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTIONIST

I, DANCAN 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 7th day of December, 2024.



Dancan Omondi

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