- 1 JUDGE CRUMLISH: I'm going to
- 2 call to order the October 18, 2023 meeting
- 3 of the Philadelphia County Board of
- 4 Elections. As I always do, I emphasize that
- 5 it is my duty and obligation to preserve
- 6 order and decorum of these meetings.
- 7 Everyone in attendance should be on notice
- 8 that any interruptions of these ordinary
- 9 proceedings will not be tolerated and those
- 10 who violate that request will be asked to
- 11 leave.
- 12 The Sunshine Act permits anyone
- 13 attending a public meeting to object to a
- 14 perceived violation at any time during the
- 15 meeting. If you choose to do so, please
- 16 succinctly (inaudible). An objection is not
- 17 an opportunity for litigation or
- 18 speechmaking.
- 19 Having said that, we'll now move
- 20 to public comment. Commentors shall state
- 21 their name, where they live, or if they are
- 22 or are not a resident of Philadelphia and if
- 23 they are a Philadelphia taxpayer. So public
- 24 comment is not an opportunity, as I've said

- 1 before, for interrogation or dialogue or
- 2 litigation. It's a public comment; a chance
- 3 for you to tell us what you think.
- 4 The speaker shall be allotted
- 5 approximately two minutes. However, I may
- 6 extend this time at my discretion. All
- 7 public comments must be relevant or germane
- 8 to the Board business. Finally, it is my
- 9 responsibility in this part of the
- 10 proceeding also to preserve the order and
- 11 decorum of these meetings so profane,
- 12 slanderous, discriminatory, or personal
- 13 attacks won't be tolerated.
- 14 Please note that we will be doing
- 15 polling place changes later in the meeting
- 16 so anyone wishing to be heard on a polling
- 17 place change shall wait 'til that time. Is
- 18 there anyone here for public comment?
- MR. GARELLA: Good morning.
- 20 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Good
- 21 morning.
- MR. GARELLA: I have a public
- 23 comment that I submitted last week. My name
- 24 is Rich Garella from Protect Our Vote

- 1 Philly. I have a public comment I submitted
- 2 last week that wasn't read out and I'd like
- 3 to read it into the record. It might be a
- 4 little over three minutes.
- 5 JUDGE CRUMLISH: I advise you
- 6 that in the public meeting we identified the
- 7 comment that you (inaudible) and it was made
- 8 part of the record. It's been made part of
- 9 the record already so you can use it to
- 10 summarize at this point but it has already
- 11 been established that it's in our record.
- 12 Okay?
- MR. GARELLA: That means it's
- in the transcript, the minutes?
- JUDGE CRUMLISH: You can
- 16 start now.
- 17 MR. GARELLA: Okay. So I
- 18 just wanted to call your attention to the
- 19 executive session that you announced after
- 20 the fact, which is fine, on September 27th
- 21 that took place before September 27th saying
- 22 that the Board would be meeting in executive
- 23 session to confer with counsel regarding the
- 24 timing of the upcoming election as it

- 1 relates to the (inaudible) of the ballots
- 2 and the certification of the machine
- 3 process.
- 4 Having conducted that, by
- 5 recommendation counsel did communicate with
- 6 Commonwealth Court advising them of the
- 7 deadline that we were facing that may be
- 8 impacted by any ongoing litigation. The
- 9 problem with this explanation is it was
- 10 impossible to tell -- for the public to tell
- 11 whether there is any ongoing litigation or
- 12 not.
- 13 If there is, according to Reading
- 14 Eagle versus Reading, it should -- that
- 15 litigation should've been identified by the
- 16 names of the parties, the docket number, and
- 17 the court in which it was filed. If there's
- 18 not litigation, then the nature of an
- 19 identifiable complaint or threatened
- 20 litigation should've been stated. That's
- 21 the law that was set out by the Commonwealth
- 22 Court in Reading Eagle versus Reading.
- The goal of this Board should be
- 24 to help the public understand the purpose of

- 1 the session and why it was excluded, not to
- 2 obscure it or try to -- you know, or just
- 3 sort of (inaudible) in some technical way
- 4 that the Board thinks the law requires. So
- 5 what we're requesting is that the Board take
- 6 these words to heart, fulfill its legal
- 7 obligations to the public, and reexplain the
- 8 purpose of that executive session held
- 9 between September 20th and 27th in a way
- 10 that meets the requirements of Pennsylvania
- 11 law.
- 12 And so we just are hoping that you
- 13 would go ahead and do that. Whether there
- 14 is litigation or whether there isn't, I
- 15 think the public deserves to know the reason
- 16 for that executive session in a way that we
- 17 can understand. Thank you.
- JUDGE CRUMLISH: Thank you.
- 19 Judge Furlong, have we had any e-mailed
- 20 public comments?
- JUDGE FURLONG: Thank you,
- 22 Judge Crumlish. All comments that were
- 23 e-mailed by 9:45 a.m. were shared with the
- 24 Members of the Board and the deputies by

- 1 10:00 a.m. and have been provided to each
- 2 Member of the Board at the beginning of the
- 3 meeting and are available at the public
- 4 comment table.
- We received one comment from Donna
- 6 Ciafre. I've reviewed the comment and ask
- 7 that it be moved into the record. It will
- 8 be available on the public comment table.
- JUDGE CRUMLISH: So that will
- 10 be accepted. I have read and reviewed it as
- 11 well as I said so it will be admitted into
- 12 the public record. So having said that, are
- 13 there any other e-mails that were sent to
- 14 us, Judge Furlong?
- JUDGE FURLONG: Nothing else.
- JUDGE CRUMLISH: So now I'll
- 17 move to old business. I'm going to ask
- 18 Director Lynch to read the executive
- 19 director's report, please.
- 20 MR. LYNCH: Good afternoon,
- 21 Commissioners. Today's Sunshine report for
- 22 October 18, 2023, the County Board of
- 23 Election Report. The County Board of
- 24 Elections is now accepting mail-in and

- 1 absentee ballot applications. Voters will
- 2 need to complete and return their
- 3 application to the County Board of Elections
- 4 Office by 5:00 p.m. on October 31st to vote
- 5 by mail for the 2023 general election.
- 6 Voters may apply online at vote.phila.gov
- 7 rather than returning the paper
- 8 applications.
- 9 As of yesterday, they have
- 10 approved 98,086 vote-by-mail applications
- 11 which is 3,939 added from last week's total.
- 12 Of those, 59,455 are paper applications and
- 13 38,631 are electronic applications. This
- 14 includes civilian, overseas, and military
- 15 voters. We have a total of 884 applications
- 16 waiting to be processed. Of those, 457 are
- 17 paper applications and 427 are electronic
- 18 applications.
- 19 On Tuesday, October 10th, they
- 20 opened the satellite office at City Hall in
- 21 Room 130. So far, they have serviced 67
- 22 walk-in voters. Voters can request a
- 23 mail-in or replacement ballot in person and
- 24 return it all on the same visit. Office

1 hours are Monday through Friday (inaudible). 2 (Whereupon there was a break 3 4 in the video.) 6 MR. LYNCH: For the satellite 7 office, I'm sorry. For the satellite office, strike that. I said Room 130. 8 9 Room 140. Sorry about that. 10 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Thank you, 11 Director. So now, Mr. Stroman, I'd like to move to present the polling place proposed 12 13 recommendations. Is there anyone here who 14 would like to speak on the polling places? 15 (No response). 16 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Hearing 17 none, Mr. Stroman, could you present the 18 polling place recommendations? 19 Good morning, MR. STROMAN: 20 The first three are in the 23rd your Honor. 21 Ward; the 5th Division, 6th Division, and 22 7th Division moving out of Frankford Friends 23 School at 1500 Orthodox Street to Unique 24 Dreams at 4704 Leiper Street and that is all

- 1 due to a refusal.
- JUDGE CRUMLISH: On
- 3 recommendation of the professional staff, I
- 4 move that we accept the proposed polling
- 5 place changes. Do I hear a second?
- 6 JUDGE FURLONG: Second as to
- 7 all three changes.
- 8 JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in
- 9 favor?
- 10 (Aye).
- JUDGE CRUMLISH: The proposed
- 12 relocations are accepted.
- 13 MR. STROMAN: Next one is in
- 14 the 37th Ward, 13th Division moving out of
- 15 Hartranft School at 720 West Cumberland
- 16 Street to the Greater Impact Worship Center
- 17 at 2431 North 6th Street and that's back to
- 18 the original location.
- 19 JUDGE CRUMLISH: I move that
- 20 we accept the proposal of the professional
- 21 staff for the relocation in the 37th Ward,
- 22 13th. Do I hear a second?
- JUDGE FURLONG: Second.
- JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in

1	favor?
2	(Aye).
3	JUDGE CRUMLISH: The proposal
4	is adopted.
5	MR. STROMAN: Next two are in
6	the 38th Ward, 5th Division and 6th Division
7	moving out of EW Rhodes School at 2900 West
8	Clearfield Street to the Shuler Rec Center
9	at 3000 North 27th Street and that's back to
10	the original location.
11	JUDGE CRUMLISH: I move that
12	we accept the proposed relocation of the
13	professional staff. Do I hear a second?
14	JUDGE FURLONG: Second.
15	JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in
16	favor?
17	(Aye).
18	JUDGE CRUMLISH: So adopted.
19	MR. STROMAN: Next one is in
20	the 40th Ward, 5th Division moving out of
21	Greenway Presbyterian Apartments at 2001
22	South 59th Street to Salt & Light at 5736
23	Chester Avenue and that is due to a refusal.
24	JUDGE CRUMLISH: I move to

1	accept the recommendation of the
2	professional staff. Second?
3	JUDGE FURLONG: Second.
4	JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in
5	favor?
6	(Aye).
7	JUDGE CRUMLISH: It's been
8	accepted.
9	MR. STROMAN: Next one is in
10	the 46th Ward, 10th Division moving out of
11	Victory Christian Center at 5220 Whitby
12	Avenue to the People's Baptist Church at
13	5037 Baltimore Avenue and that is moving it
14	into its ward.
15	JUDGE CRUMLISH: I move that
16	we accept the recommendation of the
17	professional staff for the relocation of the
18	polling place as stated. Do I hear a
19	second?
20	JUDGE FURLONG: Second as to
21	that change.
22	JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in
23	favor?
24	(Aye).

1	JUDGE CRUMLISH: Moved and
2	seconded based on professional staff and
3	adopted.
4	MR. STROMAN: Last but not
5	least in the 46th Ward in the 11th Division
6	moving out of Christy Rec Center at 728
7	South 55th Street to the People's Baptist
8	Church at 5037 Baltimore Avenue and that is
9	for voter convenience.
10	JUDGE CRUMLISH: I move that
11	we adopt the recommendation of professional
12	staff from the Commissioner's Office for the
13	relocation. Do I hear a second?
14	JUDGE FURLONG: Second.
15	JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in
16	favor?

- 17 (Aye).
- 18 JUDGE CRUMLISH: It is
- 19 adopted. We will move on to the next matter
- 20 of business. I'd like to propose a motion.
- 21 The motion is that the County Board of
- 22 Elections shall place fixed traditional
- 23 dropboxes throughout the city with one
- 24 additional box in each of the following

- 1 regions: Lower Northeast, North, River,
- 2 Southwest, Upper North, and West.
- 3 I further move that the deputy
- 4 shall arrange installation of the dropboxes
- 5 and shall report the locations of the
- 6 installations at the immediate next public
- 7 meeting of the Board of Elections and shall
- 8 publicize the dropbox locations when they
- 9 are installed and ready to be opened for use
- 10 to the general public on vote.phila.gov. Do
- 11 I have a second?
- JUDGE FURLONG: Second.
- JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in
- 14 favor?
- 15 (Aye).
- 16 JUDGE CRUMLISH: The motion
- 17 is adopted. Second motion. I move that we
- 18 authorize the deputies to schedule mobile
- 19 van dropoff events. The information on the
- 20 events shall be posted on vote.phila.gov and
- 21 be announced at the next public meeting of
- the Board following the announcement of the
- 23 schedule. Do I hear a second?
- JUDGE FURLONG: Second.

ELECTIONS 10/18/2023

1	JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in
2	favor?
3	(Aye).
4	JUDGE CRUMLISH: Motion is
5	adopted. Judge Furlong, do you have any
6	other items to be added to the agenda?
7	JUDGE FURLONG: No, Mr.
8	Chairman.
9	JUDGE CRUMLISH: Judge
10	Johnson, do you have any items to be added
11	to the agenda?
12	JUDGE JOHNSON: No, Mr.
13	Chairman.
14	JUDGE CRUMLISH: Thank you.
15	Having no further business, I move that we
16	adjourn from the call of the Chair. All in
17	favor?
18	(Aye).
19	JUDGE CRUMLISH: Thank you.
20	
21	(This concludes the meeting.)
22	
23	
24	

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence noted are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me in the foregoing matter, and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

any Marzario

(The foregoing certification of this transcript does not apply to any reproduction of the same by any means, unless under the direct control and/or supervision of the certifying reporter.)

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Eric Kapenstein

From:

Dana Eckroade

Sent:

Monday, October 16, 2023 10:34 AM

To:

Nick Custodio; Eric Kapenstein; Vincent Gowans

Subject:

FW: Public Comment

Please void the previous email for the public comment. That was sent in error. Please see the below public comment.

Dana Eckroade Supervisor of Elections | County Board of Elections 1400 John F Kennedy Blvd Room 142 Philadelphia, PA 19107 Phone: (215) 686-3469

----Original Message-----

From: Donna Ciafre <donnaciafre@me.com> Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 9:23 AM To: PhillyElection <phillyelection@phila.gov>

Subject: Public Comment

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Good afternoon. My name is Donna Ciafre and I am the Comittee Woman in the 26th Ward, 5th Division. With such an important election coming up next month, and the terrible turn out in the primary, I have a lot of constituents utilizing the mail-in ballot process. Therefore, I am respectfully and urgently requesting that your office provide South Philadelphia with an additional drop box at Broad & Porter, outside of the Fumo Library. I have many friends also in the 39th ward that would also utilize the drop box outside the library. Thank you for providing the taxpayers with this convenience.

Sent from my iPhone