

1 MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS

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3 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2022

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6 COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

7 LISA DEELEY, CHAIRWOMAN
8 SETH BLUESTEIN, COMMISSIONER
9 OMAR SABIR, COMMISSIONER

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HELD AT:
11 City Commissioners Warehouse
12 11311 Roosevelt Boulevard
13 Philadelphia, PA 19154

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REPORTED BY: Nicole Nagle

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22 STREHLOW & ASSOCIATES
23 COURT REPORTERS - VIDEOGRAPHERS
54 FRIENDS LANE, SUITE 116
24 NEWTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18940

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(215) 504-4622 FAX (215) 504-7155

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2 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

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4 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning. I
5 call the November 9, 2022, meeting of the
6 Philadelphia City Commissioners to order.

7 First, I will preserve the order and
8 decorum of these meetings. Everyone in
9 attendance should be on notice that shouting
10 out or interrupting the proceedings will not
11 be tolerated.

12 Those who violate this will be asked to
13 ask the to leave.

14 The Sunshine Act permits anyone
15 attending a public meeting to object to a
16 perceived violation at any time during the
17 meeting. If you choose to do so, please
18 succinctly state your objection. Objecting is
19 not an opportunity for speechmaking.

20 Second, with all the work being done
21 yesterday for Election Day, staff failed to
22 post an agenda for this meeting. One was
23 finally posted this morning.

24 There were no items of official action

1 on today's agenda therefore, I would like to
2 make a motion that the that agenda was posted
3 on our website this morning be considered the
4 amended agenda.

5 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Second.

6 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Commissioner
7 Bluestein, please call the roll.

8 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Commissioner
9 Deeley.

10 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Aye.

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

13 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Aye.

14 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: The motion that was
15 to accept the agenda that was posted --
16 consider the agenda that was posted on our
17 website last night is passed unanimously.

18 We will now move to public comment.
19 Commenters shall state where they live or if
20 they're not a resident of Philadelphia that
21 they're a Philadelphia taxpayer.

22 Public comment is not an opportunity
23 for dialogue or Q&A. It's public comment. A
24 chance for you tell us what you think.

1 Each speaker shall have two minutes,
2 however, I may extend this time at my
3 discretion. All public comments must be
4 relevant or germane to Board business.

5 Finally, it is my responsibility to
6 preserve the order and decorum of these
7 meetings. As such profane, slanderous,
8 discriminatory or personal attacks will not be
9 tolerated.

10 Is there anyone here for public
11 comment?

12 MR. GARELLA: Good morning,
13 Commissioners.

14 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning.

15 MR. GARELLA: It's been a little while.
16 My name is Rich Garella and I'm representing
17 the non-partisan -- hows that? I'll stand
18 back here.

19 Good morning. My name is Rich Garella
20 and I'm representing the non-partisan election
21 advisory group Protect Our Vote Philly.

22 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Can you guys hear
23 him without it?

24 MR. CUSTODIO: The stream won't pick it

1 up.

2 MR. GARELLA: Testing, testing. Okay
3 start the clock again, right? Good morning.
4 My name is Rich Garella and I'm representing
5 the non-partisan election advisory --

6 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Sorry about that.

7 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Hi, Rich.

8 MR. GARELLA: Hi, good morning. My
9 name is Rich Garella and I'm representing the
10 non-partisan election advocacy group Protect
11 Our Vote Philly.

12 We want to remind this Board of
13 Elections of it's obligations under the
14 Sunshine Act of Pennsylvania, under section
15 709 public notice the Board is required to
16 post an agenda listing all items of agency
17 business at least 24 hours before each
18 meeting, including this one.

19 Regarding yesterday's meeting, we
20 certainly appreciate the difficulties of the
21 position the Board was put in by parties and
22 groups who clearly wish only to delay
23 Philadelphia's results through unnecessary
24 legal actions.

1 However, even special meetings require
2 24 hours of notice to the public. Emergency
3 meetings do not.

4 Furthermore, we remind the Board that
5 the reason for executive sessions such as the
6 one announced yesterday must be explained to
7 the public.

8 Saying that the Board met with Counsel
9 regarding ongoing litigation is not
10 sufficient. You must specify what litigation
11 it is when you announce that you had or will
12 have an executive session.

13 We thank all the Board of Elections
14 staff for it's hard work through another
15 difficult election cycle. And we hope for the
16 sake of the City of Philadelphia and for the
17 State of Pennsylvania that the rest of the
18 canvas process goes very smoothly.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you. Is
21 there anyone else here for public comment,
22 please come forward?

23 Seeing none, we will now move -- we
24 will now see if there was any e-mailed public

1 comment.

2 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: There were no
3 e-mailed public comments as of 9:45 a.m. this
4 morning.

5 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Commissioner
6 Bluestein, do you have any items -- oh, I'm
7 sorry I missed a page.

8 We'll now go to old business and I'll
9 call on Joe Lynch to read the report from the
10 executive director.

11 MR. LYNCH: Good morning,
12 Commissioners.

13 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning.

14 MR. LYNCH: Considering all, I'll make
15 this short and sweet as we still have a lot of
16 work ahead of us.

17 But considering all the hype leading up
18 to the election, I feel as though the election
19 went pretty smoothly yesterday. So thanks for
20 all your help and support.

21 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Joe, thank you so
22 much for all that you do you and your staff
23 really.

24 MR. LYNCH: Everybody is working

1 together. We're a team.

2 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you so much.

3 MR. LYNCH: Thank you.

4 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Commissioner
5 Bluestein, do you have any items to be added
6 to the agenda?

7 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have none.

8 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Commissioner Sabir,
9 do you have any items to be added to the
10 agenda?

11 COMMISSIONER SABIR: I have none.

12 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: With no items
13 remaining on the agenda, this meeting is
14 adjourned to the call of the Chair.

15 Thanks everybody.

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18 (Whereupon the meeting concluded at 11:07 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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

Court Reporter-Notary Public

(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.)

11/9/2022

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