

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

+ + + + +

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

and

TOWN HALL

+ + + + +

WEDNESDAY

JUNE 17, 2020

+ + + + +

The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened a Regular Board Meeting via teleconference, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 a.m. EDT, D. Michael Bennett, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

D. MICHAEL BENNETT, Chair
MIKE GILL, Member
KARYN GREENFIELD, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

ALICE P. MILLER, Executive Director
CECILY COLLIER-MONTGOMERY, Director,
Office of Campaign Finance
WILLIAM SANFORD, Office of Campaign
Finance
TERRI STROUD, General Counsel

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

7:35 a.m.

CHAIR BENNETT: Okay, great. And Karyn Greenfield is here in the office with us so we have a quorum and the meeting is hereby called to order.

The first item on the agenda is to ascertain a quorum. We begin with, Michael Gill is on the line, Karyn Greenfield and Michael Bennett is here, the adoption of the agenda and the approval of the minutes.

Can I get a motion to adopt the agenda from Mr. Gill? And approval of --

MEMBER GILL: A motion to adopt -- Mr. Chairman, I'm making a motion to adopt the agenda and approve the minutes from the last meeting.

CHAIR BENNETT: Can I get a second, Ms. Greenfield?

MEMBER GREENFIELD: Second.

CHAIR BENNETT: It's been properly moved and seconded, the agenda for today. And the minutes of the last meeting are approved.

1 Any Board matters, Mr. Gill, since
2 you're on the line?

3 Any Board matters you can give us, Mr.
4 Gill?

5 MEMBER GILL: No, sir.

6 CHAIR BENNETT: Ms. Greenfield?

7 MEMBER GREENFIELD: No.

8 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. I don't have
9 any Board matters, other than we're going to have
10 this public meeting after this meeting.

11 First on the agenda in terms of
12 reports is Ms. Cecily Montgomery, Office of
13 Campaign Finance. Ms. Montgomery?

14 We're not able to hear, Ms.
15 Montgomery.

16 MR. SANFORD: Hello, good morning, Mr.
17 Chairman, this is William Sanford. She is here,
18 I think she was going to confer with the Director
19 of the Board of Elections on another matter for
20 the moment.

21 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Is --

22 MR. SANFORD: So if you like, I can

1 give my report meanwhile?

2 CHAIR BENNETT: Ms. Montgomery, are
3 you still here? Ms. Miller is here and we'll,
4 Mr. Sanford, maybe you can go ahead until Ms.
5 Montgomery --

6 MR. SANFORD: Yes.

7 CHAIR BENNETT: -- is able to join in.

8 MR. SANFORD: I can give my report
9 until she joins us.

10 (Simultaneous speaking.)

11 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. I recognize the
12 General Counsel for the Office of Campaign
13 Finance to Mr. William Sanford to provide his
14 report.

15 MR. SANFORD: Thank you very much.
16 Good morning, Mr. Chairman and distinguished
17 Board Members, my name is William Stanford,
18 General Counsel for the Office of Campaign
19 Finance.

20 And during the month of May 2020 the
21 Office of the General Counsel received three
22 referrals from the public information and records

1 management division. And those referrals were
2 from the Fair Elections Program.

3 The Office of the General Counsel
4 completed nine hearings and issued nine orders,
5 which included the following. Three orders were
6 issued in which no fines were imposed and six
7 orders were issued which imposed a total of
8 \$12,125 in fines.

9 The Office of the General Counsel
10 imposed fines against the following respondents.
11 A fine of \$375 was imposed against the SEIU
12 International Union.

13 A fine of \$2,350 was imposed against
14 the Ward 2 Democrats. A fine of \$2,350 was
15 imposed against Ivan Cloyd for U.S.
16 Representatives.

17 A fine of \$2,350 was imposed against
18 the SEIU Local 500 Union. A fine of \$2,350 was
19 imposed against the Seniors United Act. And
20 finally, a fine of \$2,350 was also imposed
21 against the Ward 2 Democrats.

22 During the month of May 2020, the

1 Office of the General Counsel maintained a total
2 of four opened investigations, and they included
3 the following.

4 The first is a complaint that was
5 filed by the committee to hold Jack Evans
6 accountable, Adam Eiding, Chairman. We
7 received that complaint on the 3rd of February
8 2020.

9 The Respondent was DC Legal Defense
10 Committee for Jack Evans. The allegation in this
11 complaint was the unlawful use of legal defense
12 committee -- of an unlawful use of illegal
13 defense committee. That matter was referred to
14 the reports for this analysis division.

15 The second complaint was filed by a
16 Jenny Malloy. We received that complaint on the
17 19th of May 2020.

18 The Respondent is Karl Racine for
19 Attorney General 2018 Principal Campaign
20 Subcommittee. The allegation is the
21 inappropriate use of campaign funds. That
22 complaint is pending.

1 The third complaint, also filed by
2 Jenny Malloy on May 19th, the Respondent is Ed
3 Lazere for DC Principal Campaign Committee. The
4 allegation is the inappropriate use of fair
5 election funds. And that complaint is pending.

6 And the final complaint was filed by
7 Chuck Faze (phonetic) on May 28th, 2020. The
8 Respondent is Anthony Lorenzo Green, candidate
9 for Ward 7 Council. The allegation is the
10 inappropriate use of a government resource. And
11 that matter is pending.

12 During the month of May 2020, there
13 were no requests for opinions and no show cause
14 proceedings were conducted. And that, Chair,
15 concludes my report.

16 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you, Mr.
17 Sanford. Ms. Montgomery, are you on the line
18 now?

19 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Yes, I am.

20 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. We've got to
21 flip back and start with, well not start with,
22 but continue with the portion of your report, Ms.

1 Montgomery.

2 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Okay then.

3 All right. Good morning.

4 The first thing that I would like to
5 make the public aware of is that on May the 27th,
6 2020 the Office of Campaign Finance's website was
7 enhanced to include a search feature which makes
8 available to the public the matching and the base
9 amount payments which were authorized for
10 disbursement by OCS in the Fair Elections
11 Program, by candidates, and it also offers the
12 overall FEPs, the first totals.

13 As well as registration information
14 for each FEP candidates. Including the data
15 registration, certification status and the
16 history of the financial reports that have been
17 filed with the agency with a link to the report
18 image.

19 And also, the history of the public
20 funds payout. And this enhancement, of course,
21 was made possible as a result of the ongoing
22 development and design of the FEP e-filing

1 system, which commenced on March the 13th, 2020.

2 The Office of Campaign Finance
3 continues to operate under a modified status.
4 Our services continue to be provided remotely via
5 email and by telephone at 202-671-0547.

6 All candidate and committee reports
7 will continue to be received online at our
8 website on the reply deadline. And candidates
9 must also contact the office for instructions for
10 earning the registration process.

11 In the Fair Election Program division
12 during the month of May, I would say overall
13 right now there are 30, 44 committees who are
14 registered in the Fair Elections Program.
15 Currently 18 committees are active.

16 Following (audio interference) notify
17 the failures to meet the qualifications to (audio
18 interference) 2020 primary. Hello?

19 And on March the 18th, 2020 for the
20 June 16, 2020, Ward 2 special election. We sent
21 out notices to them on May the 26th. And also on
22 June 1st, 2020.

1 And those committees were the
2 committee to elect Stuart Anderson 2020, Nate
3 Brown 2020, Danielle Platt for Ward 8, Catherine
4 for Ward 2, both Fria Moore 2020 and Rosenberg
5 2020. And Daniel Hernandez for Ward 2.

6 During the month of May the Fair
7 Elections Program division issued 11 status
8 reports to candidates who were seeking
9 certification in the program but have not yet met
10 their threshold requirement.

11 As of May 31st, 2020 the total sum of
12 \$2,492,531.35 has been disbursed on base amount
13 and matching payments between the 22 candidates
14 who have been certified under the program.

15 During May 2020, the total sum of \$1,242,088.03
16 was distributed in action funds to several FEP
17 candidates.

18 And again, I won't name all of those
19 candidates now but the staff will be posted on
20 the OCF website this evening. No later than the
21 close of business today.

22 Also in the Fair Elections Program

1 division during the month of May, the division
2 conducted 52 desk reviews of reports of receipts
3 and expenditures that have been filed during the
4 month of May. And also, with respect to the
5 optional April the 30th, 2020 report as well as
6 amended filings of reports that received an
7 expenditure.

8 The division issued 16 requests for
9 additional information concerning their review of
10 these reports. There was one referral to the
11 Office of the General Counsel.

12 And that was with respect to the
13 Committee to Elect Renee Bowser on May 19th
14 concerning questions. With respect to the
15 reports that had been filed in the office.

16 The Office of the General Counsel did
17 in fact hold the hearing on the Elect Renee
18 Bowser 2020 committee on May 14th, 2020. Again
19 with respect to the responses to the RFAI.

20 Overall the candidate information by
21 election, we had 11 candidates who were certified
22 as participating candidates in the June 2nd, 2020

1 primary election. We had four candidates who
2 were certified as participating candidates in the
3 June 16, 2020 special election.

4 And with respect to the November 3rd,
5 2020 general election, we had an 18 candidates
6 who are registered in the FEP program. And as of
7 this date, six of those ten have been tagged and
8 certified as participating candidates.

9 In our public information and records
10 management division, during the month of May we
11 had several filing deadlines. The first, the
12 eight day pre-primary report of receipts and
13 expenditures was due on the May 26th in the Fair
14 Elections Program.

15 We had 18 required filings, 14 timely
16 filed. We had two late filers, we had two
17 committees for whom extensions were requested and
18 granted. We had two failures to file and four
19 committees were referred to the Office of the
20 General Counsel for the initiation of the
21 enforcement process.

22 In a traditional program, in the

1 Principal Campaign Committee, in terms of the
2 eight day pre-primary report of receipts and
3 expenditures, which again, was due on May the 26,
4 2020, we had 21 required filers, 16 timely filed.
5 We had two late filers, we had three failures to
6 file. And five committees total were again
7 referred to the Office of the General Counsel for
8 the initiation of the enforcement process.

9 With our legal defense committees we
10 have, one, the fifth report of receipt and
11 expenditures was due on May the 1st. The report
12 was timely filed. We had one required filer and
13 the report was timely filed.

14 On May 10th was the mandatory filing
15 deadline for reports and receipts and
16 expenditures in the Fair Elections Program. We
17 had 32 required filers and 29 timely filed, two
18 late filed.

19 We had two who requested extensions
20 and extensions were granted. We had one failure
21 to file and we had three referrals, again, to the
22 Office of the General Counsel, for the initiation

1 of the enforcement process.

2 Also, May the 22nd was the deadline
3 for the filing of the \$500 exemption report by
4 those candidates who registered in the agency,
5 who claimed that they would not be spending more
6 than \$500 on their campaign.

7 We had 13 required filers. I will
8 not, again, read their names into the record, but
9 their names are listed on our report which will
10 be posted. And 13 did in fact file.

11 During the month of May we had three
12 new candidates and committees who registered this
13 agency in the traditional program. We had two
14 Principal Campaign Committees and candidates.

15 The first was Perry Redd, candidate
16 Ward 4 City Council, registered on May the 24th,
17 2020.

18 We also had Michelangelo Scruggs,
19 Committee to Elect Dr. Mich, DC Councilmember at
20 Large, May 18th, 2020.

21 We also had an independent expenditure
22 committee to registered Common Sense for DC.

1 They registered on May the 30th, 2020.

2 Again, with referrals to the Office of
3 the General Counsel there were three. Again, I
4 won't read their names into the record, but one
5 was from the, one was from the Fair Elections
6 Program.

7 Also we did conduct virtual training
8 during the month of May, and that is the
9 mandatory training that is required under the
10 Campaign Finance Act. The training was made
11 available online.

12 Had 14 candidates and treasurers who
13 participated. Again, their names will be listed
14 in our stats as they are posted on the, at the
15 website.

16 In our reports analysis and audit
17 division during the month of May, the audit
18 division conducted 33 desk reviews of the
19 judicial reports that have been filed with the
20 agency by political action committees, as well as
21 our principal campaigns committee. And also from
22 our constituents service program.

1 And also in the audit branch during
2 the month of May, we do have ongoing audits. We
3 have three ongoing periodic random audits with
4 respect to the January 31st filing of candidates
5 who are participating in the 2020 elections
6 cycle.

7 The first is the Friends of Robert
8 White. The audit records were received by the
9 agency on March 16th. Veda for Ward 7, this
10 audit was initiated on March the 2nd, 2020.

11 The Committee to Elect Rogers for
12 Council, and that audit was initiated on March
13 the 2nd, 2020.

14 Also, with respect to the audit, the
15 Political Action Committees of the January 31st
16 filing, we have three. Verizon Communications,
17 Inc., Good Government Club PAC, which was
18 initiated on March 2nd, 2020, the DC Libertarian
19 Party, which was initiated on March the 2nd,
20 2020, the Firefighters Committee on Political
21 Activities, which was initiated on March the 2nd,
22 2020.

1 We also had periodic random audits,
2 which we initiated in our Constituent Service
3 Programs. And the first one is, and this was --
4 these audits were initiated with respect to the
5 April the 1st, 2020 filing by our Constituent
6 Service Program.

7 And the first was our Mayor Bowser,
8 Constituent Service Program. The second is our
9 Ward 5 Constituent Service Program. And the
10 third one is the Ward 4 Constituent Service
11 Program.

12 The audit notification letters were
13 issued on May the 20th, 2020. And I would like
14 to also add that we do have one full field audit,
15 which is ongoing. And that is the Jack Evans
16 Legal Defense Fund.

17 The response to the preliminary draft
18 audit report was received on May the 27th, 2020.
19 And we did not issue any final audit reports
20 during the month of May. And that completes my
21 report.

22 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you, Ms.

1 Montgomery. Any questions in regarding that
2 report from Ms. Greenfield?

3 MEMBER GREENFIELD: No, I don't have
4 any.

5 CHAIR BENNETT: Any questions, Mr.
6 Gill?

7 MEMBER GILL: No. No, thank you.
8 Thank you, Cecily, thank you, Bill.

9 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay, I don't have any
10 either.

11 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Okay.

12 CHAIR BENNETT: Next item on the
13 agenda is the Executive Director's Report, Ms.
14 Alice Miller.

15 MS. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
16 The first item on my report is a certification of
17 the June 2nd, 2020 primary election result.

18 I'm going to read into the record the
19 names and letters of the primary and then ask the
20 Board to certify those winners. Those results as
21 the winners. I will go through each contest on
22 the ballot and name the one individual receiving

1 the highest vote.

2 Just as a preliminary, there were
3 114,890 votes cast. We had a turnout of 28
4 percent. And the breakdown by party is on our
5 website, as is all of this other information. So
6 I just want to start with that.

7 First, the Democratic Presidential
8 preference. The individual receiving the highest
9 votes is Joseph R. Biden.

10 Delegate to the U.S. House of
11 Representative, Eleanor Holmes Norton.

12 Democratic-at-Large member of the
13 council, Robert White.

14 Democratic Member of the Council Ward
15 2, Brooke Pinto.

16 Democratic Member of the Council Ward
17 4, Janeese Lewis George.

18 Democratic Member of the Council Ward
19 7, Vincent C. Gray.

20 Democratic Member of the Council Ward
21 8, Trayon Ward 8 White.

22 Democratic United States Senator, Paul

1 Strauss.

2 Democratic United States

3 Representative, Oye Tax Free Owolewa.

4 Republican representative of

5 Republican Presidential Preference, Donald J.

6 Trump.

7 Republican Delegate to the United

8 States House, I'm sorry, Republican-at-Large

9 Member of the Council, Marya Pickering.

10 Republican Member of the Council Ward

11 2, Katherine Venice.

12 Republican Member of the Council Ward

13 8, Nate Ward 8 Derenge.

14 The Republican United States Senator

15 was Cornelia Weiss, write-in.

16 Republican National Committee Member,

17 Ashley Carter MacLeay.

18 Republican Chair of the DC Republican

19 Committee Ward 2, Robert Sinners.

20 Republican Chair of the DC Republican

21 Committee Ward 6, Travis Korson.

22 Republican Chair of the DC Republican

1 Committee Ward 7, Milton Hardy.

2 Republican Chair of the DC Republican
3 Committee Ward 8, Mindi Walker.

4 Republican Chair of the DC Republican,
5 I'm sorry, that's it. The next, Libertarian
6 Delegate, house of representatives is Ford
7 Fischer.

8 Libertarian-at-Large Member of the
9 Council, Joe Bishop-Henchman.

10 Libertarian Chair of the Libertarian
11 party of the District of the Columbia Joe, I'm
12 sorry about that, Joe Bishop-Henchman.

13 And then we'll go to the Statehood
14 Green. Statehood Green Presidential preference,
15 write-in Howie Hawkins.

16 Statehood Green Delegate to the U.S.
17 House of Representative, Natalie Lino Stracuzzi.

18 Statehood Green-at-Large Member of the
19 Council, Ann C. Wilcox.

20 Statehood Green Member of the Council
21 Ward 4, Perry Redd.

22 Secondly, United States Senator,

1 Eleanor Ory, EChO.

2 And Statehood Green United States
3 Representative Joyce Chestnut Robinson-Paul.

4 And that was all of the (audio
5 interference) results. I'd like to certify those
6 as the individuals receiving the highest vote
7 totals and therefore the winners of the primary
8 election held on June 2nd.

9 These results are posted on our
10 website. In the event that inadvertently missed
11 a name or mispronounced a name or there is some
12 mistake with the name, they are on the website,
13 as you have them in front of you.

14 And to the Board, we need to take a
15 motion to certify these results.

16 CHAIR BENNETT: Did you read the name
17 Joyce Robinson-Paul into the record?

18 MS. MILLER: I think I did.

19 CHAIR BENNETT: You did? The United
20 States Representative. Okay, great.

21 Can I get a motion to certify these
22 June 2nd primary elections, Mr. Gill?

1 MEMBER GILL: Sorry. I'm sorry,
2 Michael, what was the question?

3 CHAIR BENNETT: The question was a
4 motion to certify the June 2nd primary election
5 as noted by Ms. Miller. Thank you.

6 MEMBER GILL: Sorry, I didn't realize
7 we had got there. So a motion to certify the
8 June primary elections as reported by Executive
9 Director Miller.

10 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. And a second,
11 Ms. Greenfield?

12 MEMBER GREENFIELD: I second.

13 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. It's been
14 properly moved and seconded. We'll take a voice
15 vote. Mr. Gill?

16 MEMBER GILL: Aye.

17 CHAIR BENNETT: Ms. Greenfield?

18 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

19 CHAIR BENNETT: And aye for me as
20 well. Thank you. The June 2nd election has been
21 certified.

22 MS. MILLER: Thank you. We will place

1 the certified results on the website at some
2 point following this meeting. I think that's
3 happening now as a matter fact, but anyway, they
4 will be placed on the website as certified.

5 Just generally, with respect to the
6 June primary, we just have appropriately 92,000
7 ballot requests that were responded to. We had
8 20 vote centers open, as you know. That was
9 changed from the normal 15 and added five
10 additional.

11 And the time period that we announced
12 the process for the June 2nd, we had about 735
13 radio ads that were played on 17 stations, 5.4
14 million digital ads were served to D.C.
15 residents, 21 print ads appeared in seven
16 outlets, 27 community meetings were held via
17 WebEx and other, Zoom meetings. And we also had
18 a number of commercials that were played on TV.

19 We will acknowledge that there was
20 confusion and frustration caused by the D.C. Vote
21 4 DC app. We're in the process of terminating
22 that relationship with the vender as we tried

1 numerous times to get the vendor to address this
2 issue with no success.

3 The system was also stressed by the
4 massive turnout that resulted from our outreach
5 efforts as there were two key points that we
6 would recognize that were not successful, and
7 that was the tracker for the ballot processing
8 requests. And also the email requests on the
9 ballot feature, the technology did not hold up to
10 the numerous requests that we received.

11 So that was, of course, very
12 disappointing to us as well as the voters. And
13 we will address that going forward as well.

14 And I want to say that this was a
15 major U-turn that we took with our processing,
16 from a plan of 18 months knowing and when the
17 agency and the pandemic hit, not only us but to
18 the world, global pandemic, the offices were
19 placed in a modified remote operating process.

20 We had workers who were sickened as
21 well as some who dealt with losses. Chairman and
22 Members, including up to three, we ran the

1 campaign and did the best we could operating with
2 many staff, a result of shifting our processes
3 from the main location, to the warehouse where
4 there was more space and where the ballot
5 operation actually took place.

6 So that's just a high overview of the
7 June 2nd election. Obviously there will be more
8 conversation going forward and more discussion on
9 how to make the process better for November.

10 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you, Ms. Miller.
11 Any questions, Mr. Gill?

12 MEMBER GILL: No questions, Alice, but
13 I know we're going to how a town hall after this,
14 and I didn't raise any board matters, but just a
15 couple of observations.

16 One I think that, let's recognize that
17 three to four hours in line is failure. That's
18 not optimal.

19 Now, obviously the pandemic required
20 a change of course midstream, but I think there
21 is a lot of positives, and I want to look at the
22 glass half full here before I know we're going to

1 get a lot of criticism from voters rightly.

2 And then from the Counsel, which I
3 think is maybe less justified. But the point is,
4 we normally do 6,000 absentee ballots, we got
5 93,000 out the door.

6 So while there were problems with the
7 online version, because it wasn't built for this
8 and we asked it to do things beyond its
9 capability, the fact is, for folks that mailed in
10 a ballot request, it worked fine.

11 And I think the 93,000 number has been
12 portrayed as something that stressed us. Now,
13 that's the number we got out the door.

14 And I think that's a tremendous
15 effort. And I have spent some time at the
16 warehouse and with the warehouse workers and saw
17 what was going on there. That was tremendous, to
18 pull that around with less than ten weeks or so
19 in notice.

20 The other data point, and I really
21 want to say great things about the data team at
22 the Board of Elections that's pulled together all

1 the data on this turnout. Twenty-eight percent,
2 this time it was 21 percent.

3 In 2016, during the primary, which is
4 also a pretty contested primary. So good for us
5 for the voter numbers are going up.

6 The other thing I would point out is
7 that we had 20 voting centers for early voting.
8 That's the highest number that the Board has ever
9 been able to put together. And that requires not
10 just staff, but the tremendous logistics of
11 pulling that off with disability and those kinds
12 of concerns.

13 The turnout for 19 of the 20 days, or
14 I forget how many days we had it open, but for
15 all but one day was minuscule at those voting
16 centers. And then we had, as the Chairman has
17 referred to, the cultural desire of American
18 votes to be there on voting day.

19 So I just think it's important to put
20 in context because I know our critics won't.
21 Most voting centers for early voting ever. Most
22 absentee ballots by an order of almost a thousand

1 percent and a turnout that generated eight or
2 nine percent over the most recent 2016 example on
3 this.

4 So, criticism, four hour lines, yes,
5 absolutely, we accept it. And I don't think
6 there is any dodging that.

7 But the fact is, those lines were
8 because our control is only on the voting centers
9 and we erred on the side of social distancing, of
10 requiring social distancing, or protecting our
11 workers and protecting the voters.

12 Now, we could not control when that
13 line gets too long, and I think that's something
14 we need to revisit in terms of do we go to back
15 to 143 precincts or do we try to advertise the
16 early voting times more.

17 But there was a tremendous positives
18 that came out of this, and I don't want those to
19 not be recognized.

20 And the finally, this is my
21 observation to the staff. Not necessarily to
22 you, Alice, although you have a report there.

1 The folks that signed up, and you
2 know, it's the health care workers, it's the
3 grocery workers, it's the people on the front
4 lines for these types of essential duties, voting
5 is essential, they were recognizing the threat
6 and they still showed up. And not only did they
7 show up, we asked them to be there early in the
8 morning, till that last voter who's in line at
9 8:00, votes.

10 Unfortunately for voters, it was way
11 past midnight when that last voter was able to
12 vote. But our staff stayed. Our staff continued
13 to do their job. Our staff didn't walk out in
14 what was a long, long night.

15 And I don't think that, that's been
16 recognized by the armchair quarterbacks. And so
17 I wanted to recognize the staff also.

18 So with that, Michael, as I said, I
19 have no questions but I did want to make those
20 observations.

21 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you. Thank you,
22 Mr. Gill. And I won't repeat, but I echo your

1 sentiments. It was just an incredible effort.

2 Ms. Greenfield, you --

3 MEMBER GREENFIELD: I would echo also
4 what he said. And that we know and that we are
5 looking into for the November elections, how do
6 we accommodate, and especially since we have
7 what's known as the unknown of COVID-19 and what
8 it may do or what it may cause.

9 And so we are definitely working until
10 we shorten that long wait in line to vote. And
11 to get as many votes as possible.

12 CHAIR BENNETT: Great. Thank you.
13 Next item on the agenda is the General Counsel's
14 Report. Ms. Terri Stroud.

15 MS. STROUD: Good morning, everyone.

16 The second item on my agenda is
17 rulemaking. I have two rulemaking documents.

18 The first is an Emergency and Proposed
19 Rulemaking that would amend Title 3 DCMR Chapter
20 7 to establish that, with respect to November --
21 with respect to 2020 elections, the last day for
22 the Board to receive mailed absentee ballots is

1 the tenth day after the election.

2 That is due to an update in the
3 election code. And this rulemaking would place
4 our regulations into conformity with that
5 legislative update.

6 The second is Final Rulemaking that
7 would Amend Title 3 DCMR Chapters 10 and 11 to
8 remove a prohibition against registered voters
9 who are eligible to sign a ballot measure
10 petition being signatories on petition sheets
11 that they circulate.

12 And this follow-on rulemaking,
13 emergency and proposed rulemaking with respect to
14 these amendments, published in the DC Register on
15 May 15th. No comments were received and no
16 substantive changes have been made.

17 And one, I ask that the Board act
18 today to approve the emergency and proposed
19 rulemaking for publication in the DC Register.
20 And that will be on June 26th. And at the point
21 of publication they will become effective.

22 And I also ask that the Board approve

1 the final rulemaking for publication in the DC
2 Register on that same date.

3 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Hearing a
4 motion, I'm hearing a motion from Ms. Greenfield
5 at this time to approve that, the rulemaking as
6 noted by Ms. Stroud.

7 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Yes. I move to
8 approve the emergency and proposed rulemaking for
9 publication in the June 26th DC Register, at
10 which point they will become effective. And move
11 that we approve the final rulemaking for
12 publication in the DC Register on that same date.

13 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Can we have a
14 second from Mr. Gill?

15 MEMBER GILL: This is Mike Gill. I
16 second.

17 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. It's been
18 properly moved and seconded.

19 Can I get a voice vote.

20 Mr. Gill?

21 MEMBER GILL: Aye.

22 CHAIR BENNETT: Ms. Greenfield?

1 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

2 CHAIR BENNETT: And aye for me. So,
3 it's unanimous.

4 Thank you, Ms. Stroud.

5 MS. STROUD: Thank you.

6 The last matter on my agenda is the
7 litigation status. There are six cases.

8 The first is William V. Hunt v. Board.
9 This matter was filed in the U.S. District Court
10 for DC in October of 2018, and it's a complaint
11 regarding the counting of the write-in votes cast
12 in the mayoral contest in the November 2018
13 general election.

14 The Board filed a motion to dismiss in
15 this matter on April 24th of 2019. The motion
16 was granted on March 10th. And Mr. Hunt has
17 appealed to the DC Court of Appeals on April
18 22nd. And we are now awaiting a scheduling order
19 from the Court of Appeals.

20 The second matter is Graham v. The
21 Board of Elections. This matter involved the
22 Board's appeal of a permanent injunction entered

1 by the Superior Court in December 2018 which
2 prohibits the Board from taking any action with
3 respect to the Referendum 008 petition.

4 All pleadings in this matter have been
5 filed. Oral arguments have been set for April
6 21st, but that has been cancelled. In accordance
7 with an order of the Chief Judge of the DC Court
8 of Appeals, this court will decide the matter
9 without oral argument.

10 The third matter is Phillip Hammond v.
11 The Board. This is a case that was consolidated
12 with a similar matter, Robin Marlin v. The
13 District Board of Elections. These matters were
14 filed in the DC Court of Appeals, and they are
15 appeals from an order which upheld the resolution
16 of ANC 7B, but found no vacancy in single-member
17 District 7B04, and 7B05.

18 We are -- all the pleadings in this
19 matter have been filed, and we expect the Court
20 to decide the merits of these matters on the
21 paper.

22 The next case is Robinson, et al. v.

1 The Board. This matter was filed in DC Superior
2 Court on May 18th, and it was a complaint for
3 declarative relief, alleging that the Board's
4 placement of three Ward 8 Vote Centers and its
5 alleged failure to conduct targeted outreach for
6 Ward 8 residents constituted a violation of
7 Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

8 On May 21st, the Board filed a motion
9 for summary judgment and a motion to dismiss for
10 lack of jurisdiction on the grounds that claims
11 of Voting Rights Act violations are within the
12 jurisdiction of the U.S. District Court for DC.

13 On May 22nd, the Court granted the
14 motion, the Board motion to dismiss.

15 After being dismissed from the local
16 court, the plaintiff filed a complaint and a
17 motion for a preliminary injunction in the U.S.
18 District Court for DC on May 21st.

19 The plaintiff ultimately filed a
20 motion for a temporary restraining order. And
21 the Board -- the Court denied the plaintiff's
22 motion on May 28th.

1 The Board filed an answer to the
2 original complaint that was filed in court, in
3 that court. And we did that on June 10th. And
4 we are awaiting further scheduling instructions
5 from the court.

6 And that concludes the litigation
7 status and my report.

8 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay, thank you.

9 Any questions, Mr. Gill?

10 MEMBER GILL: No questions. Thank
11 you, Terry.

12 CHAIR BENNETT: Any questions, Ms.
13 Greenfield?

14 MEMBER GREENFIELD: No questions.

15 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Thank you.

16 Your report has been received.

17 We've got a couple minutes left. And
18 so, we have an 11:30 public meeting. So, we're
19 going to allow for about 5 minutes or so of
20 public comment.

21 Does anybody wish to have public
22 comment for this meeting or questions?

1 MR. SINDRAM: Yes. Good morning, Mr.
2 Chair.

3 CHAIR BENNETT: Good morning.

4 MR. SINDRAM: Michael Sindram,
5 disabled veteran who served our country more than
6 most.

7 How are you?

8 CHAIR BENNETT: I'm good, thank you.

9 MR. SINDRAM: You sound well.

10 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you kindly.

11 MR. SINDRAM: Yes, sir. I wanted to
12 thank -- yes, sir -- I wanted to thank Terrica
13 Jennings. The appearance by phone this go-round
14 went without a hitch. It's good we got a 202
15 local number. So, that has helped. And like I
16 say, it went without -- it went, I was connected
17 without a hitch. It's good.

18 I wanted to make you all aware I did
19 voting this go-round. Sad but true, we don't
20 have an election, we just have a primary, which
21 is the election. But that having been said,
22 curbside voting, I did that at Emery Rec in Ward

1 4. And it also went without a hitch.

2 So, I wanted to express gratitude to
3 those that volunteered and were involved. It
4 went -- I figured it was going to be a deluge at
5 election day, so to alleviate that and get it
6 done ahead of schedule, I then went to the early
7 voting, again at Emery Rec.

8 I did want to ask. The results that
9 have been confirmed for Ward 4, could those be
10 repeated, please, the winner, for council race?

11 MS. MILLER: Yes. For council race we
12 certified Janeese Lewis for the Ward 4 council
13 seat.

14 MR. SINDRAM: Great. And what was the
15 margin of victory, percentage?

16 MS. MILLER: Brandon Todd, 8,524;
17 Janeese Lewis George, 10,965; Marlana Edwards,
18 411; and write-ins, 24.

19 MR. SINDRAM: Great.

20 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Keep up the
21 good work.

22 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you, sir.

1 Anybody else, public comment?

2 MR. SCHILLER: I have a question.

3 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes.

4 MR. SCHILLER: Can you hear me?

5 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes.

6 MR. SCHILLER: Hello. My name is
7 Nikolas Schiller. I'm calling on behalf of the
8 Campaign to Decriminalize Nature DC.

9 I'm calling in regards, my question is
10 about voter registration numbers. Based on the
11 website, the May 31st voter registration number
12 is 496,701 on May 1st. But on the website for
13 the June 2nd results we have 410,250 registered
14 voters. That's where we get the 28 percent
15 turnout.

16 That's a reduction in three days of
17 approximately 86,441 voters. I'm calling in
18 regards to if these voters are going to be --
19 have been fully removed from the voter rolls or
20 if there is possibly a miscalculation, because
21 that is a 5 percent difference. And as the
22 campaign has to receive 5 percent of the

1 registered voters in order to make the test for
2 the November general election by July 6th, I
3 believe that this number is significant to be
4 questioned.

5 Thank you very much for your time.

6 MS. MILLER: I can briefly address
7 that.

8 The registration numbers that you see
9 are the total number of registered voters for the
10 turnout for the June 2nd that dealt only with
11 those affiliated with a party. It was a party
12 primary, not for every registered voter.

13 MR. SCHILLER: I appreciate that
14 update.

15 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay, great.

16 Any additional public comment? Okay.

17 MR. NOTI: I have a question.

18 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes. Can you identify
19 yourself, please?

20 MR. NOTI: Ladies and gentlemen, yes.
21 My name is Adav Noti. First name A-D-A-V, last
22 name N-O-T-I. I'm with the Campaign Legal Center

1 in Washington, DC.

2 It has come to our attention that a
3 town hall meeting is scheduled for 11:30 today, I
4 was wondering if the Board could explain the
5 public notice that it gave of that town hall.

6 CHAIR BENNETT: We put it on the
7 website. And, Ms. Stroud, I don't know the exact
8 date.

9 MS. STROUD: I believe that the notice
10 was published on Monday. But I can check that.

11 MR. NOTI: So the Board is aware, it
12 is not currently on the website at all. The only
13 event listed for today is the Board's regular
14 meeting, which doesn't have a public component.
15 And as an organization that had intended to
16 testify at the Board's next public meeting, we
17 did not receive any notification until it was
18 tweeted out on the Board's account this morning.

19 MS. STROUD: It was published on June
20 13th. The public notice is on the front page of
21 the website and says in a caption, Public Notice,
22 June 17th Virtual Public Town Hall. And it also

1 was posted on Twitter on June 12th.

2 So, yes, this past -- on the 13th the
3 notice was published on the website.

4 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. I mean, this is
5 not the last one. We've got a list of 100 people
6 who want to speak. And this is not the last
7 conversation we plan on having. This is really
8 trying to get input and also to have some
9 meaningful discussion.

10 So, it certainly won't be the last
11 one. And, obviously, today all 100 people will
12 not have an opportunity to speak. But what I am
13 asking, will ask people to do during that
14 session, if you're not able to speak, is to, you
15 know, just send us an email or, you know, and
16 we'll look to have it on another occasion as
17 well.

18 So, this certainly won't be the last
19 one.

20 Are there any other comments though?

21 Okay.

22 MR. NOTI: Thank you, sir.

1 CHAIR BENNETT: All right, thank you.

2 Any other public comments? We've got
3 about two minutes left before we need to adjourn
4 and get ready for the next, for the Zoom meeting.

5 (No response.)

6 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay, hearing none,
7 the meeting is hereby adjourned. And anybody who
8 is -- hello?

9 (Telephonic interference.)

10 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Well, the
11 meeting is -- I can't hear whoever that is, but
12 the meeting is hereby adjourned. Look forward to
13 talking to many of you in a few minutes on the
14 Zoom call.

15 Thank you.

16 (Whereupon, the above entitled matter
17 went off the record at 11:20 a.m. and the resumed
18 at 11:34 a.m.)

19 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you all for
20 joining. My name is Michael Bennett, and I'm
21 Chair of the Board of Elections. And this is the
22 first of a couple of -- of several, rather, town

1 halls that we want to have just to get some
2 feedback and input from the community and various
3 groups on going forward and the November
4 election.

5 I think we posted -- I know we posted
6 this morning on our website a report that we did
7 that went through the various areas and told you,
8 and told the public the things that we had
9 challenges with, in June 17th.

10 The purpose of this is really to get
11 some input and to make sure that we're all moving
12 forward and that we get as many great ideas as we
13 possibly can to ensure that we have an effective
14 and smooth -- as smooth as possible -- process in
15 November.

16 I've got about 100 people who we've
17 got listed to speak. There are two people I
18 committed, actually three I committed to speak,
19 and otherwise it's going to be random selection.

20 But if you're not selected to speak,
21 please provide input with regard to email to us.
22 But please take a look at the report we have on

1 the website first because it addresses the
2 various issues that we had challenges or where
3 there were, you know, concerns that will give you
4 an opportunity to be specific relative to input
5 and really trying to provide some nuggets that
6 will help us in November.

7 With that, what I'd like to do,
8 though, is we are fortunate enough to have
9 Councilman Vince Gray with us this morning. And
10 I'd like for Councilman Gray to kick us off with
11 some comments and his thoughts going forward.

12 So, Councilman Gray. Thank you.

13 MR. GRAY: Thank you very much. Good
14 morning, Michael. I appreciate you including me
15 in this experience that you're having this
16 morning. And I want to, again, underscore my
17 appreciation for the Herculean work that you've
18 engaged in in order to get us to where we are
19 today with the elections process here in the
20 District of Columbia.

21 First of all I want to thank you for
22 agreeing to serve as the chair of the Board of

1 Elections in the District of Columbia. I know
2 there are other opportunities that you've had,
3 and I'm deeply appreciative of the fact that
4 you've chosen to work with us in the District of
5 Columbia.

6 The last elections process that we had
7 on June 2nd was, when you look nationwide, it was
8 clear that we had huge demands. We had long
9 lines here in the District of Columbia, but not
10 just here. All you need to do is go out to
11 Prince George's County and look at what
12 experiences they had there as a part of the
13 process for conducting their election in Prince
14 George's County and throughout the state of
15 Maryland.

16 We, we know that we've got a huge
17 election coming in November. Probably will be a
18 monumental turnout, to say the least, with the
19 presidential election taking place, and then us
20 having an election, again, local election here in
21 the District of Columbia.

22 So, Michael, I'm excited about working

1 with you. I've had a chance to talk to you on
2 many occasions about our elections and our
3 elections process in the District of Columbia. I
4 like the fact, also, you are engaged with as many
5 people as you possibly can, and you've made that
6 very clear from the outset that you believe that
7 people need to be involved in this process in
8 order to get, you know, continue to grow here in
9 the District of Columbia.

10 So, I'm excited about working with
11 you. I look forward to working with you on how
12 we get to November to get that done. And look
13 forward to being involved with the idea that we
14 have to continue to build the Board of Elections
15 process. I know we need more resources in order
16 to be able to get some of these things done that
17 you want to get done.

18 And I want to be as helpful as I
19 possibly as I can. And I hope that you will
20 engage me, you know, in whatever ways are
21 appropriate to be able to accomplish that.

22 So, I know, I know there's so much

1 work yet to be done. I don't want to be
2 redundant about that, but I believe we've got a
3 wonderful opportunity to be able to do this in
4 the right way. And I'm here to be as helpful as
5 I possibly can.

6 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you. Thank you
7 again for your input.

8 (Audio interference.)

9 MR. NOTI: I missed, what did you say,
10 I missed your last statement.

11 CHAIR BENNETT: It looks like we got
12 some feedback.

13 Is the sound better?

14 MR. NOTI: That is more better there,
15 yes.

16 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes. Thank you.

17 Councilmember Gray, I know you've got
18 other things to do. And we're just going to be
19 here an hour. But I just wanted to thank you for
20 all your support and also continuing input from
21 you and other council members as well, as well as
22 the Mayor's Office, for us to all get through

1 this together.

2 I mean, clearly the Board of
3 Elections, as you know and all other elected
4 officials know and different agencies, has been
5 set up that way by the Home Rule Act to ensure
6 that we have integrity in our process. But we
7 can't get there without all of us pulling
8 together.

9 So, we certainly appreciate that and
10 we'll continue to do all the things we can to
11 make sure that the process is one that's in the
12 best interests of the citizens of the District of
13 Columbia. And, you know, that's our focus, to
14 continue moving in that direction, and we're
15 certainly going to do that.

16 So, thank you again for being with us.
17 And we look forward to your being with us on
18 other occasions as well, like when we have town
19 halls and other opportunities for us to get some
20 input from persons that are in the community. At
21 the end of the day, that's what this is about,
22 this is certainly not about the Board of

1 Elections, but it's about the voters of the
2 District.

3 MR. GRAY: Well, I'll be happy to be
4 as helpful as I possibly can, Michael. I know
5 you're a volunteer. I appreciate the fact that
6 you're giving you time. I mean, you've been a
7 very successful, you know, corporate executive
8 over a number of years, and we're very fortunate
9 to be able to have you involved with these
10 efforts. And I know you're doing it gratis, pro
11 bono.

12 So, again, I appreciate it. And I'm
13 assuming that so many others do as well in the
14 city. We all know the long lines we've
15 experienced, but we'll get through that as well
16 the next time.

17 CHAIR BENNETT: Great. Thanks,
18 Councilman Gray, I appreciate that.

19 What I want to do right now is just
20 really quickly -- and I think if you haven't, you
21 should take a look at our website. And there is
22 a report there, along with an executive summary,

1 that talks about the June 2nd election, as well
2 as, you know, where we go forward, which is
3 really what I want the bulk of this conversation
4 to be is, like, how do we go forward.

5 But what I want to do just very
6 quickly is to read the executive summary from
7 that and then open this up for other persons to
8 speak because, like I said, I'm less concerned
9 about what we think and more concerned about what
10 you think.

11 So, and this is the executive summary
12 to that preliminary report analyzing the June
13 2nd, 2020, primary election, and also outlines a
14 high level task force.

15 This preliminary report outlines the
16 successes and challenges experienced during the
17 June 2, 2020 Primary Election. Given the scope
18 of the COVID-19 pandemic, its impact on the
19 city's resources and DC Board of Elections staff,
20 coupled with significant challenges surrounding
21 the mail-in balloting process, the Board of
22 Elections will present the findings below, along

1 with a more in-depth assessment of the primary
2 election to Mayor Bowser and the DC Council.

3 Holding an election under these
4 conditions was uncharted territory and forced us
5 to condense 18 months of planning into less than
6 eight weeks as a result of the COVID-19. While
7 we acknowledge there were significant challenges,
8 we now have a clearer vision of how to proceed
9 for the general election. DCBOE will provide a
10 full accounting of what we learned and specific
11 recommendations on a path forward for the
12 November General Election in the weeks ahead. We
13 will encourage the public to participate -- which
14 is what this is all about -- in the hearing
15 process and help us continue to rebuild trust in
16 our election process.

17 DCBOE experienced the following
18 challenges during the recent primary election:

19 Loss of over 1700 poll workers who had
20 committed to working during the primary election
21 to only 365 workers to serve at 20 Vote Centers
22 for 10 years -- I'm sorry, 10 days.

1 Voter ballot requests, just under four
2 times that of previous elections, proved to
3 overwhelm our Vote4DC Mobile App and request-by-
4 email process. Thus, a number of requests were
5 not processed in a timely fashion.

6 The Vote4DC Mobile App proved
7 incompatible with various types of mobile devices
8 used by some voters. The application's vendor
9 was unable to triage and correct the problems in
10 a timely fashion, and in some instances was
11 unable to correct the problem at all and
12 nonresponsive despite numerous requests for
13 assistance and trouble tickets submitted.

14 The technical challenges caused some
15 voters not to receive a ballot by mail. The
16 increased voter turnout on Election Day, coupled
17 with COVID-19 social distancing guidelines,
18 caused voters to experience longer than usual
19 wait times at the Vote Centers.

20 May voters who timely completed their
21 ballot requests could not track the status of
22 their ballots. This led to understandable

1 confusion and frustration.

2 Despite the aforementioned challenges,
3 DCBOE's process did yield some positive outcomes.

4 DCBOE. Operated 20 Vote Centers for
5 11 days, including Election Day, all of which
6 were accessible to voters from all 144 precincts.

7 Deployed 365 trained workers
8 throughout the early voting period to assist with
9 the Early Vote Centers. Faced with a shortage of
10 workers due to COVID-19, DCBOE deployed all
11 available DCBOE staff members to Vote Centers to
12 assist with keeping the centers running smoothly.

13 Implemented an effective
14 communications campaign to immediately engage DC
15 voters to request their ballots by mail or vote
16 at one of 20 Vote Centers via multiple press
17 conferences, virtual meetings with DC leaders and
18 community and political organizations, a digital
19 ad campaign, postcards and print, TV, and radio
20 ads. The communications effort worked; the
21 requests poured in at rates we had never seen
22 before.

1 Processed over 92,000 absentee ballot
2 requests when our systems previously processed
3 only a quarter of that number.

4 Offered multiple voting methods,
5 including expanded use of non-excuse absentee
6 mail-in ballots.

7 Issued a Voter Guide to each party-
8 affiliated registered voter. Each Voter Guide
9 included two Absentee Mail-in Ballot applications
10 and a postage-paid return envelope that many
11 voters utilized.

12 In response, DCBOE used overnight
13 delivery for out-of-state ballots, reissued
14 ballots to those who had not previously received
15 them, and even hand-delivered ballots in some
16 instances.

17 Among the forthcoming detailed
18 changes, DCBOE plans to incorporate the following
19 elements into its forthcoming strategy to be
20 shared with the Mayor and the DC Council.

21 We, one, we will secure, we are in the
22 process of securing a partnership with a mailing

1 house vendor to mail a ballot to every registered
2 voter in the District of Columbia.

3 Double the number of Vote Centers for
4 early voting, and;

5 Deliver a plan to modernize DCBOE's
6 technology.

7 And I'm done with the executive
8 summary. But what I did want to just close with
9 before opening up to persons speaking, and the
10 first person will be Mr. Charles Wilson. But
11 what I did want to let people know, and that is
12 to thank all of the poll workers, the persons
13 that worked in the Vote Centers, and also the
14 staff that worked in the warehouse during this
15 process.

16 And this is not an understatement.
17 People were literally risking their lives in this
18 process. There were stay-at home orders. The
19 pandemic was and still continues to be moving,
20 like, relatively quickly. We all knew very
21 little about it, and the persons that worked were
22 literally risking their lives in the process.

1 So, I want to thank them and let them know how
2 much they are appreciated.

3 So, with that, I want to open the
4 conversation up and just start hearing from
5 persons, those of you that are there. And
6 there's two people particularly that I had
7 acknowledged and wanted to share. And one was
8 Mr. Charles Wilson, head of the DC Democratic.
9 And then also Mr. Bob King who's got a lot of
10 experience with regard to seniors, particularly
11 in Ward 5. We have a couple other people.

12 But I'm going to randomly select folks
13 to speak during this hour. And if you aren't
14 selected, I really do encourage you or ask you if
15 you would, you know, submit your comments in
16 writing. And then we'll have an opportunity to
17 consider that.

18 As well as we're going to do this
19 again. I mean, this won't be the last time.
20 Can't commit how many we're going to do, but I'm
21 going to try and do as many as certainly as makes
22 sense during this time frame.

1 So, if I can recognize Mr. Charles
2 Wilson. And then next I'd like to recognize Mr.
3 Bob King. And if you can hold your comments to a
4 few minutes, Mr. Wilson, I'd appreciate it.

5 Anthony, can you find Mr. Wilson? Or
6 Bob King.

7 MR. WILSON: I'm here.

8 CHAIR BENNETT: Mr. King? Or is that
9 Anthony Wilson?

10 MR. WILSON: This is Charles Wilson.

11 MR. NOTI: You want Mr. Wilson, Mr.
12 Charles Wilson to speak first; right?

13 CHAIR BENNETT: Mr. Wilson, if you
14 could speak that would be great, if you're there.

15 MR. WILSON: Okay. I wasn't sure, are
16 we going to have the camera on or not?

17 MR. NOTI: You don't have your camera
18 on so you're just speaking through the mike.

19 MR. WILSON: Okay, great.

20 Mr. Bennett, good morning. First, I
21 want to say I want to thank you for your
22 leadership and the work of the entire staff of

1 the Board of Elections and all the poll workers
2 for the, you know, Herculean effort that you guys
3 had to encounter once COVID-19 became a real in-
4 your-face reality for the District.

5 You know, there's no real need for me
6 to kind of rehash some of the issues that we as a
7 city face this election, but I want to thank you
8 for, one, acknowledging our letter of concern
9 and, two, not just acknowledging it, but in
10 reading your response we're extremely excited
11 that the Board has taken steps forward to
12 implement some of the ideas that we put forth in
13 our letter.

14 Also want to thank you for the Board's
15 willingness to have an open conversation with us
16 and the working group that we put together, folks
17 who are concerned and just want, you know, a
18 better outcome in November than what we've had a
19 couple weeks ago.

20 And, you know, I know we had the
21 conversation last week about some ideas about how
22 do we as a city get our voters to think more not

1 just getting excited to go out and vote on
2 election day, but to really take advantage of
3 early voting, the two weeks of early voting in
4 the city, and moving more maybe to election week
5 or election season so people know that they do
6 not have to wait for election day to be able to
7 cast their vote.

8 So, we're willing to work with you
9 guys on how we can make that happen. And,
10 hopefully, that will, you know, vote by mail and
11 early voting that will alleviate -- and having as
12 many poll sites open as possible, that will
13 alleviate the logjam that we had on, early in
14 June.

15 Also, you know, I know we talked a
16 little bit about the Voter's Guide and whether it
17 was still a relevant tool for elections. And,
18 you know, and I told you this was the first
19 election that I really appreciated the Voter's
20 Guide. We put in a blurb about our delegate
21 election process. And I got at least ten phone
22 calls a day from voters around the city, not

1 asking about our delegate election, but more how
2 do they vote in this upcoming election.

3 And so, there's a real use for the
4 Voter's Guide. Maybe not as robust as it has
5 been before but it's definitely something that's
6 needed, especially for many of our seniors across
7 the city that don't have access to, you know,
8 ready access to the internet or just how to --
9 being able to navigate the internet like many of
10 us. The Voter's Guide is still very important to
11 them.

12 So, I hope that we, you know, that we
13 -- maybe it's not as robust as it was in the
14 past, but that we still use it going forward.

15 But, again, we're really excited about
16 the work that you guys are doing and the ideas
17 that you guys have to make November a more
18 seamless process. And we're excited about
19 working with you guys to make that happen.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you. One of the
22 things I wanted to ask is that, is we are going

1 to be looking to identify additional Vote
2 Centers. And so, one of the things that we would
3 ask a person to do is, you know, we have to make
4 sure that the Vote Centers and locations are in
5 fact ADA-compatible, and a number of things. But
6 we're certainly open to receiving information
7 about, you know, where you think might be a good
8 place, whether it's a public or private place,
9 that could potentially end up being a vote center
10 that would be most convenient.

11 So, any input we'd like with regard to
12 that, that would be great.

13 Along with the fact that we are, we
14 are going to be doing a fairly extensive
15 recruiting campaign for poll workers to staff.
16 And we have to start that relatively soon because
17 we've also got a pretty significant training
18 process that has to happen.

19 So, if there are some ideas relative
20 to the recruiting of persons, or names even, we
21 certainly are open to receive those as well. And
22 this is a request not just to you, Mr. Wilson,

1 but anyone and all that are on the phone. So,
2 thank you.

3 MR. WILSON: Great. Thank you.

4 CHAIR BENNETT: If we can, if Mr. King
5 can, if Bob King can identify himself I'd like to
6 hear from him, particularly as it relates to
7 seniors.

8 MR. HALES: I don't see him on the
9 list anywhere. Mr. Bob King I don't see. If you
10 raise your hand or send a message so we can
11 activate your microphone.

12 (No response.)

13 MR. HALES: I'm not sure he's on right
14 now.

15 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes, we're going to
16 try and give him a call.

17 Is Ms., is Wendy Carson-Smith on the
18 line?

19 MR. HALES: I don't see her either.

20 CHAIR BENNETT: You do not. Okay.

21 If she's there, if she can raise her
22 hand it would be great. If not --

1 MR. HALES: Mr. Bennett, I do know Bob
2 King is having technical issues, but he should
3 have logged back into it.

4 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. All right. As
5 soon as he's available we'd like to have him on.

6 Is, let's see, Debbie Steiner, if
7 you're on, raise your hand.

8 (No response.)

9 MR. HALES: I don't see her either.

10 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. I've got a list
11 here that you gave me that I'm going through.

12 MR. HALES: Yes. I mean, lots of
13 people registered. So, they may not have logged
14 in yet.

15 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Well, let me
16 ask you if a person would like to speak next,
17 then raise your hand. And Mr. Hales, if you
18 could recognize the first person to raise their
19 hand.

20 MR. HALES: Yes. Mr. Douglas Payton,
21 you now have, you now have the floor.

22 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you. If you

1 could identify yourself, sir, that would be
2 great.

3 MR. HALES: Okay, we'll come back. I
4 am now going to Keisha Parker. If you can unmute
5 yourself and ask your question.

6 MS. PARKER: Yes. Good morning,
7 everyone. I have a couple of different
8 questions.

9 Once you knew and that you were having
10 technical difficulties, did you all change the
11 communications client to notify voters that they
12 should go out to the voting centers to do early
13 voting? Because I didn't receive any sort of
14 notification that there was something wrong with
15 the app that would have prompted me to go out
16 early.

17 So, that's my first question.

18 And my second question is, are there
19 any roles that District residents can play from
20 home to volunteer to help you all for the
21 upcoming election? That's my -- those are my
22 questions.

1 MS. MILLER: Thank you. This is Alice
2 Miller. Thank you for your question.

3 I would say that we continued to try
4 use the app. That may have, obviously, been a
5 problem that was not successful. Under the guise
6 that it was receiving more than it was rejecting,
7 but we weren't getting everything through the
8 app. And that's the absolute, you know, process
9 that we report.

10 We are now beginning to terminate that
11 relationship with the vendor that supports the
12 app, and we're looking at putting another one in
13 place. That, obviously, could have been handled
14 a little differently and a little better. So,
15 you know, we'll take responsibility for that.

16 In terms of working from home, you
17 know, supporting us with your colleagues and your
18 workers and anyone you have relationships with,
19 if they're going to vote, obviously for this
20 election they want to do it in person, is to vote
21 early.

22 A lot of the processes that we do with

1 respect to this election cannot, unfortunately,
2 be done remotely. We cannot and could not, for
3 example, mail ballots from a remote location,
4 cannot open ballots, cannot count ballots, cannot
5 put ballot kits together. All of that, which is
6 you know, a very large part of this push, could
7 not be done from home. It all required hands-on,
8 in-person kind of community gathering,
9 unfortunately.

10 I will certainly go back to the staff
11 and see what suggestions they might have for
12 getting the public's assistance from a remote
13 location, a remote posture. Obviously, you know,
14 the support that we need with respect to getting
15 individuals to vote early as opposed to waiting
16 on election day would be tremendous.

17 We do intend to look at this a little
18 bit different and getting that message out as
19 well. We do know also that people are going to
20 want to vote on Election Day, and they're going
21 to want to vote on November 3rd, and show up no
22 matter what we do or how we do it. And that's a

1 systemic kind of concept with respect to our
2 voters, and not only our voters, the DC voters,
3 and nationwide election challenges were felt
4 nationwide as we look at primaries that were held
5 beginning from March forward.

6 So, again, like I said, I'll go back
7 and try and think it through. But on the top of
8 my head, other than trying to support us and to
9 get that word out, you know, vote early, vote
10 early, if you're going to show up that's very,
11 very important.

12 Working from home in a remote
13 capacity, I just have to think that through a
14 little bit. But I do appreciate that. And
15 certainly if we can come up with anything that is
16 significant in terms of support, we'll put that
17 out there as well.

18 CHAIR BENNETT: But if you're part of
19 a listserv, if you've got other groups, just, I
20 mean quite honestly, just communicating and
21 encouraging people on a personal basis to vote
22 early, you know, that means a lot. And that in

1 and of itself would be incredibly helpful.

2 MS. PARKER: Right.

3 So, I will say this, that I did put on
4 a -- I live in the Petworth area, and so I did
5 put on a Facebook group had people, received
6 their ballots. And some people said they did,
7 and some people said they didn't. I was one of
8 the people who did not.

9 So, I ended up calling the Board of
10 Elections the day before Election Day and I
11 received an absentee ballot emailed to me.
12 However, I started contacting the Board of
13 Elections back in April. And so even if initial
14 -- I know that I put return receipts on all of my
15 communication. So, in some cases it took three
16 weeks to open the email.

17 So, even, like, from a remote
18 perspective, even if there's someone who can open
19 up email, you know, and compile a list, I don't
20 know necessarily what you all do, but I would
21 just think what pieces of the project can you
22 potentially parse out.

1 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes.

2 MS. PARKER: So, thank you very much
3 for your, for responding to my question.

4 CHAIR BENNETT: No, that's great. And
5 one of the things I think that just sitting here
6 that we could do, that it could be done remote,
7 is we probably ought to -- we certainly need to
8 increase the number of people that are part of
9 the call center, and somebody who is properly
10 trained that could potentially be a part of the
11 call center and receive and share information.

12 So, that's a great suggestion. And
13 so, we'll certainly take that into consideration.
14 So, thank you.

15 MS. PARKER: You're welcome.

16 MS. MILLER: And the call center, the
17 call center was overwhelmed. And that is
18 actually, you know, as I said, we'll think it
19 through, that is a good idea.

20 We didn't have a lot of staff,
21 obviously, in the call center. And one of the
22 reasons was because of the social distancing

1 guidance and what we were trying to put in place.
2 But we eventually were able to move to headphones
3 where the calls could be intercepted from outside
4 of the location. So, that is something that we
5 could look at. We'd just need to make certain
6 that individuals, you know, are trained properly
7 and know how to respond to questions and issues
8 that come up.

9 So, we appreciate that. Thank you.

10 MS. PARKER: Thanks.

11 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Could you
12 recognize Mr. King if he's available.

13 MR. HALES: Okay. I'm looking through
14 the list now.

15 Do you know if he's called -- if he's
16 called in I don't see his number.

17 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Well,
18 somebody's going to call him back.

19 Can you recognize another person who
20 raised their hand?

21 MR. HALES: Yes. Yes, I'm going to.

22 Dorothy Brizill, you now have the

1 floor.

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay.

4 MR. HALES: Dorothy, are you there?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. HALES: Okay. We will move on.

7 Judy Floy, you now have the floor.

8 MS. FLOY: Thank you very much.

9 My concern is about the voter mailing
10 that came out in advance of the Voter Guide. In
11 my building, unlike previous years, the United
12 States Postal Service delivered a pile of these.
13 Unfortunately, they were not put into our
14 individual mailboxes. Unfortunately, about a
15 third of them belonged to a different building.
16 And, finally, about a third of us never got one.

17 Can we smooth out the process with the
18 Postal Service in the future?

19 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes. One of the
20 things that -- thanks for that. One of the
21 things that, I mean, that was one of the -- I put
22 the challenges that we had in two categories.

1 One is unknown unknowns, what happens when you,
2 you know, when you stress the system.

3 And a known unknown was how well we
4 received or how the Postal Service responded to,
5 you know, the increased activity.

6 And so we knew that that could be an
7 issue, but we didn't know exactly how. So, so we
8 have been working with more senior folks in the
9 Postal Service to try and address that and to
10 make sure that, you know, particularly in the
11 November election, in the September/October time
12 frame that we have a more solid plan with regard
13 to making sure that people get information by
14 mail, particularly since we're going to try and
15 do an even larger vote by mail campaign.

16 MS. MILLER: And if I might add, that,
17 unfortunately, is a little bit disheartening
18 because unlike in the past we did for this Voter
19 Guide specifically address it to every qualified
20 registered voter as opposed to households,
21 knowing that individuals need it so that
22 individuals would have access to the application

1 and the return envelope to request a mail ballot.

2 So, we'll just have to work a little
3 more closely. They've been really great partners
4 with us for the most part. This is the mail
5 carrier that really needs specific guidance and
6 direction that we need to work with. And they
7 will certainly work with them to get this in
8 place.

9 So, that that is, as I said, a little
10 disheartening because we took the extra effort to
11 address it to every registered voter. And they
12 were, as we had the registration information on
13 our rolls with apartment numbers and all, so they
14 should have been put in your specific mailboxes.

15 MS. FLOY: Thank you for addressing
16 the issue.

17 CHAIR BENNETT: All right, thank you.

18 Anthony, can you -- is Mr. King now
19 available? Not yet.

20 Okay. Can you ask somebody else,
21 Anthony, recognize?

22 MR. HALES: Yes. Jennifer, you now

1 have the floor.

2 MS. BLEMUR: Hello. Can you all hear
3 me?

4 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes, we can. Thank
5 you.

6 MS. BLEMUR: Thank you. This is
7 Jennifer Blemur, President of the Young Dems,
8 also the voter registration and education chair
9 for Ward 5 Democrats.

10 Two questions. When we had the voting
11 centers open we were still under the public
12 safety emergency. With us going into new phases
13 by the fall, what are, I guess, the requirements,
14 parameters going to be for the voting centers?

15 And then, also, you mentioned in your
16 report that you are really under-resourced. What
17 can we do to make sure that some of the resources
18 that's in the budget are going to go towards
19 DCBOE, to make sure that you all have the
20 resources that you need to execute this smoother?

21 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay, let me start
22 with the first question. And that is with regard

1 to, you know, what happens in November relative
2 to COVID-19 restrictions. And that's a known
3 unknown. I mean, we're not quite sure exactly
4 what's going to happen with regard to the
5 pandemic.

6 We have to plan for maybe not the
7 worst possible scenario, but close to the worst
8 possible scenario. And that is if we have, like,
9 what I think is going to be record-shattering
10 turnout, I mean I think our turnout is going to
11 be double what it has been before. And so that,
12 number one.

13 And, number two, what will the
14 restrictions be relative to the COVID-19 pandemic
15 if it picks up again?

16 So, we're going to have to -- so, one
17 of the things we are really focused on is trying
18 to, one, have as many places available to vote as
19 possible, do as much as we can with regard to
20 mailing, and to drive as much to early voting for
21 persons who have to come in as possible.

22 But we don't know what the

1 circumstances are going to be or if one may be
2 emphasized more than the other, depending on
3 where we are with regard to the pandemic.

4 Your second question or point was what
5 can we do relative to resources?

6 One of the things that we're going to
7 do is, and that we discovered in this whole
8 process, when I say severely under-resourced I'm
9 talking about permanent staff with the agency,
10 particularly in the IT area and some of the areas
11 around training.

12 So, once we put a plan together and
13 request additional, those additional resources,
14 which will be in relative short order, probably
15 not in days but certainly within a couple weeks,
16 we're going to make that public. And whatever
17 you can do to support that would be great.

18 MS. BLEMUR: Thank you. I just wanted
19 to kind of get a sense of what you all were doing
20 in relation to the voting centers. And so, if
21 there is something that either of the groups that
22 I'm involved in can do to help, please let us

1 know, we're available.

2 CHAIR BENNETT: Well, two things. One
3 is, if you have some out-of-the-box thinking
4 relative to the Vote Centers, and how to -- where
5 would be great places, that would be great. And,
6 you know, and if you have some persons that are
7 interested in working, you know, give us a list.

8 I would just say one of the out-of-
9 the-box thoughts that came to us the other day
10 was somebody said, Why don't you have voting
11 along with other Vote Centers having (audio
12 interference) center or at the Armory, or both.

13 So, we just threw that out there,
14 somebody threw it at us. And, you know, that's
15 the kind of out-of-the-box thinking that we're
16 looking for.

17 MS. BLEMUR: Thank you.

18 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you.

19 MR. HALES: Thank you.

20 Commissioner Ferebee, you will now
21 have the floor.

22 MS. FEREBEE: Good afternoon,

1 everyone.

2 CHAIR BENNETT: Good afternoon.

3 MS. FEREBEE: And good afternoon,
4 DCBOE. Thank you so much for your leadership,
5 for your service, because I know as an unpaid
6 public servant, I know that this is a labor of
7 love, but also, you know, your service to this
8 community.

9 I did have, and I've sent any
10 questions, several, very, you know, major
11 concerns that you have answered. The young lady
12 just before, one of them was talking about, you
13 know, the support financially. There is a need
14 for support in order to get individuals trained
15 and get the numbers that you need.

16 Please let me know what ANCs can do.
17 We are the grassroots, on-the-ground individuals
18 in the communities. Let us know what we can do
19 to put pressure on the mayor, pressure on the
20 council, because this is probably going to be one
21 of the, if not the most important elections in
22 our lifetime. That's one thing.

1 Someone also mentioned the fact, you
2 know, I called several weeks before the deadline.
3 My call is before the deadline to even request
4 ballots. My call was not returned until June
5 4th. So, that was a major concern to me because
6 I was calling on behalf of constituents and the
7 fact that I was working on a Ward 2 campaign.
8 And thousands -- or I don't know what the numbers
9 are -- of ballots that were requested never got
10 to the people who requested them.

11 So, those are lost votes. And I guess
12 it might have been answered, what is going to be
13 done about that? Because, that's a major issue
14 around ballots that didn't even get received.

15 And then for the Ward 2 special
16 election, how come Monday, the special election
17 was yesterday, I didn't even know that until I
18 saw it on television, like, Monday, that all
19 registered voters were getting a ballot, whether
20 they asked for it or not.

21 I am just hoping and praying that the
22 communication and all the glitches that you all

1 have identified will be ironed out.

2 So, thank you again. I appreciate all
3 that you are doing.

4 CHAIR BENNETT: Well, thank you.

5 Let me just clear up two things. One
6 is that the Mayor and the Council have been very
7 supportive in this process. And one of the
8 things I wanted to point out, again, is that, you
9 know, we had to make a U-turn in less, really
10 less than eight weeks. And so some of the
11 challenges that we dealt with were just really
12 driven by time. We just didn't have enough time
13 for so many things.

14 But that said, that's why we're trying
15 to get started early now to try and address some
16 of those things.

17 And the other thing, just because of
18 my volunteerism, I, I do get a small stipend.

19 It's --

20 MS. FEREBEE: Well, that's good. I'm
21 glad.

22 CHAIR BENNETT: Yeah, yeah. I mean,

1 it's determined -- well, I get a small stipend.
2 And, you know, I am clearly the lowest paid
3 person in the agency, but I do get a small
4 stipend. I am thankful for that.

5 But I don't want to make it appear as
6 if I'm, you know, -- Anyway, it's something we
7 do.

8 But thanks for your comments, though.
9 And I think clearly we need to do a lot more
10 relative to the Call Center. We were encouraging
11 people to call, and we just didn't have, we just
12 didn't have the resources focused in the Call
13 Center the way we need to. And so we're
14 certainly looking at that.

15 And also, too, the communications, we
16 now have a little bit more time. And so one of
17 the things that's just getting feedback from
18 persons like yourself, and input, is helpful,
19 like, in that regard. Because one of the things
20 that I'd like to get from everybody is their
21 willingness to receive information from us, and
22 whether it's on a website, whatever, just to

1 continue to feed that information to other people
2 that are a party in that work.

3 You know, I'm not sure if you're like
4 me, but, you know, I see things on next door and
5 I generally delete them unless I know who it's
6 coming from. So, and I'm sure people see things
7 from official government agencies and don't
8 bother reading them, they just kill them.

9 So, anyway.

10 MS. FEREBEE: If I could just add, we
11 were very involved with the Chinese residents,
12 the Latino populations, other immigrant
13 populations that really did not have any idea
14 what was going on. If there are ways to, I mean,
15 bombard television, bombard -- and I know COVID-
16 19 really put a damper on a lot of things. When
17 I was out in the community, because I was also
18 feeding some of the community.

19 There are so many different ways, and
20 I would certainly love to be called on if there's
21 some opportunities throughout the city for
22 people, you know, who don't speak English, you

1 know, and even though they're in a million
2 different languages there are different things
3 that I think could have been that were not,
4 because when I talked to a lot of the
5 representatives they said that their, many of
6 their communities didn't even know what was going
7 on.

8 CHAIR BENNETT: Thanks. Thanks for
9 that. We certainly appreciate that.

10 MS. FEREBEE: Okay. Thank you very
11 much.

12 MS. MILLER: Let me just address one,
13 one aspect of hers, the issue that you raised,
14 Ms. Ferebee. And I appreciate, I think we need
15 to figure out a method to work closely with the
16 ANCs to get some of this information out.

17 But just with respect to the Ward 2
18 ballots, we made a decision really kind of like
19 last minute, heavy lift of a decision to make, to
20 see if we could mail out the 45,000 or so ballots
21 to all of our registered voters in Ward 2. We
22 were not sure if we were going to be able to make

1 that happen, and so we didn't want to make a
2 promise that everybody would receive a ballot for
3 Ward 2.

4 We were able to get it done, in fact
5 finished the last 50 or so that were mailed, on
6 Saturday, I believe, before the election. That
7 was the reason that we did not announce it.

8 What happened when we realized that
9 the technology had failed us, the many instances
10 and some of the voters who requested their Ward 2
11 ballot did that through the same mechanism that
12 they requested the June 2 ballot. And we did not
13 have all of that in our system.

14 And rather, you know, have them go
15 without a ballot for Ward 2, the decision
16 literally was made I want to say probably at,
17 like, the 11th or 12th hour to try to get this
18 out. And it was, I wanted a non-stop operation
19 to make that happen because stuffing, and
20 mailing, and coordinating by precincts, ballots
21 are not mailed to individuals, they go out by
22 precinct. There are 14 precincts in Ward 2.

1 And to do that was, you know, I'm just
2 totally grateful to the staff that was willing to
3 stay and get that done into the wee hours of the
4 night, so that everyone, at least on the list
5 that we had, was able to get a ballot.

6 And we just wanted to make sure that
7 we didn't encounter the challenges that we had
8 with the technology by relying on what we had
9 that may not have been accurate.

10 So, that, that's why I didn't want to
11 put it out because I didn't know if we were going
12 to be able to do it.

13 MS. FEREBEE: Sure.

14 And I don't want to hog. One last
15 thing. When I was with a senior opening up both
16 ballots, we filled out the ones voted for June
17 2nd. We were looking for the ballots for June
18 16th, opened up another ballot that had been
19 sent, and there were instructions. As soon as
20 you opened the flap it said June 2nd.

21 I just happened to pull out, it was
22 the ballot for June 16th. Had I not done that, I

1 would have thrown that away.

2 MS. MILLER: Right. That was, that
3 was an error that went out. And, I would say, on
4 the first load of ballots that went out. That's
5 because, again, it was the staff that were -- the
6 package were pre -- the kits is what we call
7 them, the kits were stuffing the information.
8 And, unfortunately, they didn't catch that that
9 said June 2nd in those, in some of those ballots.

10 So, that was a mistake on our part.

11 MS. FEREBEE: Okay. I appreciate it.
12 And thank you, again.

13 MR. HALES: Thank you, Commissioner
14 Ferebee.

15 Next, Michelle Whitaker. You have the
16 floor. You can unmute yourself at this time.

17 MS. WHITAKER: Hello. Can you hear
18 me?

19 MR. HALES: Yes.

20 MS. WHITAKER: Hi. I just wanted to
21 share everybody else's appreciation for the
22 Board. I know I talked to many of the staff to

1 both work with them on making sure people were
2 able to request their ballot, and getting
3 information out about what was happening during
4 early voting, and on Election Day.

5 So, I know it was a lot of work, and
6 I do appreciate all of the efforts that the staff
7 and volunteers made.

8 I shared a few comments in the Q&A and
9 chat about some of the traffic flow issues as it
10 relates to people on Election Day getting through
11 the lines, whether it was the standing line or
12 the curbside assistance line.

13 And I, I'm not sure if I saw this or
14 how this was being addressed in the executive
15 summary, but one of the things as -- I had the
16 opportunity to observe the election, and I
17 noticed that there were just -- there was a
18 limited number of people that were doing check-
19 in, and that created a lot of back-up if those
20 same people had other responsibilities to, like,
21 they were supervising other people or there were
22 other questions that came up. There just became

1 a, like, a huge backlog in terms of getting
2 through them, which I know was a stressful time
3 watching them trying to go through that and make
4 sure everybody got through.

5 And, obviously, for people who were
6 either standing for a very long time or trying to
7 get through the line with their -- in the car
8 with their parents or children, it was a little
9 frustrating not to get information.

10 I wonder on that part how, how the
11 Board is looking to address those traffic flow
12 issues. Even with opening additional centers, we
13 need to just be prepared for an influx of people.
14 Especially we had so many people coming on
15 Election Day because of not receiving ballots,
16 even though they were trying to do that through
17 the vote-by-mail and not have to go in.

18 So, I wanted to know how we're
19 addressing that.

20 And, secondly, on just communication
21 in general, I know that there were sometimes
22 where, you know, it was very last minute to get

1 information even working on campaigns about what
2 was happening so that we could also be conduits
3 to share information along with ANCs and folks
4 who are on listservs.

5 And I'm just wondering, are there
6 going to be more efforts, whether it's doing
7 these town halls regularly or some other form
8 where we can get cleared, like, guidance about
9 what's happening, what's coming up, so that we
10 can plan better not only to, like, communication
11 with people but to know, like, what operations we
12 need for early voting, for election day, for, you
13 know, reminding people of when, when to get their
14 ballot in or when to make their request.

15 I just, one of the things I felt was
16 some of the communication was really last minute.
17 And that kind of hampered some people being able
18 to get more information out in a timely manner,
19 so.

20 Thank you. I appreciate your
21 responses to those two questions.

22 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Let me try to

1 at least address part of them.

2 To go backwards, the communication,
3 you're right -- and I'm not going to make an
4 excuse -- other than just eight weeks to try and
5 create all this stuff is just a challenge. And
6 we just have to do better in this regard with the
7 communication.

8 One of the things we're doing next
9 week is we're having a meeting with all the -- at
10 least the site leads that work the polls to talk
11 about areas that we can do better and focus on
12 relative to activities at the Vote Centers.

13 Preliminarily, what I've gotten is
14 that there are two of several places we need to
15 make some adjustments, and one is the curbside
16 voting. My understanding is, is that, you know,
17 we had fewer people than we needed. So, we
18 didn't anticipate that, like, that level of
19 activity. And so, you know, doubling or tripling
20 or quadrupling the number of people doing
21 curbside voting is something we need to consider
22 and see how we can do that.

1 And the other place that I heard was
2 a real challenge was special ballot voting. Some
3 of that was driven by the fact that persons were
4 waiting on mail-in ballots and didn't get it,
5 which was driven by a lot of different things.

6 So, we have to look at those two areas
7 as bottlenecks as well. So, but we're going to
8 get better data, I think, or different
9 information along with what you've already
10 provided from the persons working at the Vote
11 Centers next week.

12 So, Ms. Miller, do you want to add to
13 that?

14 MS. MILLER: Yeah. I just wanted to
15 add one other limitation, of course, that we had
16 with respect to the workers inside the Vote
17 Centers was the fact that we were trying to
18 recognize and respect the social gathering
19 guidelines. So, we did not have any more than
20 ten workers inside the Vote Centers. So we had
21 check-in at the ballot station, and then at,
22 also, at the ballot booth where the ballots were

1 being tabulated.

2 That was in recognition of no more
3 than ten. So, you know, that does not exist in
4 November. Obviously, we could easily try to have
5 five or six at the check-in station, which would
6 make it go a lot smoother. And also, no more
7 than ten voters at a time, which did of course
8 slow things down.

9 Now, as the chairman said, we could
10 easily have had more people outside at curbside
11 because that is not an inside, you know,
12 environment, and outside to help move the
13 curbside voting is something that we need to look
14 at.

15 But just in terms of inside, the focus
16 was trying to limit and respect the guidelines
17 that was put in place by DOH, Department of
18 Health, and with the Mayor's, you know, social
19 gathering and distancing guidelines. So, that,
20 that kind of contributed to some of it.

21 But, we will look at what we can do
22 with curbside. And as the chairman said, he's

1 had some conversations also with some of our site
2 coordinators along this line.

3 So, we appreciate that as well. Thank
4 you.

5 MS. WHITAKER: I agree with that. And
6 I would just add that on the -- for even in in-
7 person, and you probably need to figure out how
8 you work the flow a little bit better, but it
9 could be possible for someone to be going down
10 the line and checking people in maybe, so that
11 you're still waiting, like, you're still giving
12 people the space, like we're six feet apart doing
13 things, but you're doing the check-in a little
14 bit faster.

15 And then by the time they get to,
16 like, if they have to go to the desk to get their
17 slip, or whatever, it's just printing out that
18 slip, or the slip is already printed and then
19 they, they're just going to where they need to.

20 I just, I think there were just a lot
21 of limitations with just having those two -- I
22 was at Ida B. Wells -- so there were only two

1 stations devoted to the in-person people standing
2 there going in and checking in. And I think,
3 like, there could have been some ways where you
4 at least set up, like, getting the information
5 for the check-in. They still needed to wait to
6 get their slip and then go to the booth, but
7 that's --

8 So, I don't know how you might be able
9 to test run some of those features, but I know
10 that there's folks who would be interested in
11 helping support and give ideas on that from
12 observers who were at various poll locations.
13 And I'd be happy to also offer any other ideas.

14 But I think that there's just some
15 things where checking in people a little bit
16 quicker, which is kind of what happened on
17 curbside because people would get all of the
18 slips, and then the staff person dedicated to
19 curbside was completing all those and returning
20 them to the person so that they could vote. But
21 there were some other issues with that, that came
22 up.

1 But I just think that there's some
2 ways that we could be creative and still, you
3 know, respect social distancing and privacy for
4 people.

5 MS. MILLER: Right. I would say that
6 your third check-in clerk was, unfortunately,
7 doing the curbside. So that --

8 MS. WHITAKER: Yes.

9 MS. MILLER: -- kind of messed that
10 up, too.

11 MS. WHITAKER: Yes.

12 MS. MILLER: We'll definitely look at
13 that and see what we can do in terms of how the
14 technology allows us to work that outside and,
15 you know, do it all to get it done quicker and
16 more efficiently.

17 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes. But, you know,
18 and this meeting is being recorded so we'll have
19 these ideas. But if it's easier, if it's easier
20 for you or better, if you could send us a couple
21 of bullets with some of those specific thoughts,
22 that would be great. Because what I want to do

1 after we do these is also to put something out
2 that says, hey, these are the inputs that we got
3 and the things that we're able to do.

4 So, so you know we're actually
5 following up, because I want to give people
6 credit for the things that we do address.

7 And but with that, Anthony, I actually
8 have Mr. King on the phone. And I'll put him on
9 speaker. So, I'm going to ask him to speak from
10 my microphone and so we can kind of hear from him
11 for a couple minutes.

12 Mr. King, can you hear me?

13 MR. KING: Yes, Mr. Bennett?

14 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes. Can you go ahead
15 and speak up. I've got you on my speaker, on my
16 microphone so you can provide whatever comments
17 you can, particularly with regard to seniors.

18 So, please, sir, go ahead.

19 MR. KING: All right. Thank you
20 first, thank you so much first of all for making
21 the effort to reach out to me because my computer
22 was, my computer was in the shop. Been in there

1 for a while.

2 I want to talk simply about, as you
3 said, the seniors. But first of all I want to
4 thank the Board of Elections for Ward 2. I think
5 (audio interference) in me. It came back with
6 7,161 mail-in ballots as opposed to 168 standing
7 in line.

8 My biggest concern is, as I indicated
9 to Mr. Bennett back in April, I roughly represent
10 of the 700,000 residents of the District of
11 Columbia, over 100,000 of them are between the
12 ages of 62 and over. And they happen to reside
13 in public and private nursing homes and assisted
14 living. And most of them, if not all of them,
15 are still under strict quarantine, and have been
16 since March.

17 Now, there's 71, there's 71 buildings,
18 senior buildings ranging in size from 20, as the
19 smallest unit, to 400, situated throughout the
20 city. The largest number of the senior buildings
21 are in Ward 5, in my ward. Of the over 100,000
22 seniors in the city, over 10,000 live in these

1 multi-housing units.

2 Ward 5 has 17 senior buildings. In
3 Fort Lincoln where I served as ANC commissioner
4 for over 32 years, we have the largest population
5 of seniors living in one place, living in Fort
6 Lincoln than anywhere in the city. The largest
7 number of Democrats are registered in Ward 5.

8 And also, Precinct 139 is very unique
9 to all of the precincts in the District of
10 Columbia: you have to live in Fort Lincoln in
11 order to vote there.

12 What I tried to do, Mr. Bennett, back
13 in April was to send you some information. For a
14 while I thought that mail-in ballots would be
15 very critical for the seniors, because I
16 indicated from the staff in Fort Lincoln, into
17 Fort Lincoln there are about 1,900-some units in
18 senior units in Ward 5. Of that, 975 or so
19 happen to be in Fort Lincoln.

20 What I attempted to do with you, Mr.
21 Bennett, back in April was show you that I had 9
22 blind people in Fort Lincoln; there were 75

1 walkers; 100-some wheelchairs. Many are vision
2 impaired. And then also there were folks (audio
3 interference). And I think the Voter's Guide and
4 those 50 pages probably did more to suppress, not
5 only the seniors in Ward 5, but citywide. When
6 they would see a 50-page document, plus three
7 additional pages for notes, I looked at that
8 document and I titled it A Needle in a Haystack.

9 And it reminded me that back in the
10 days when folks first started having to count
11 jellybeans in a jar, I saw this as some type of
12 voter suppression or disenfranchisement for the
13 many seniors. In fact, I thought it started in
14 the District back to the 14th Amendment and the
15 19th Amendment, and the 1965 Voting Act.

16 I just don't see anywhere that seniors
17 ought to go anywhere in the winter, then sit out
18 on 14th of June that there was a resurgent of the
19 virus in Wards 1, 4, and 7. And obviously, even
20 if the pandemic doesn't come around in the
21 winter, it's still going to be there. And in DC,
22 DC we are six times more likely to come down with

1 the virus than even the white people in DC. DC
2 has suffered from diabetes and heart conditions,
3 as you well know.

4 I can't imagine the Board of Elections
5 forcing anybody to go anywhere unless they are
6 given a waiver, like Trump wants to give, so that
7 when somebody contracts the virus going out to
8 one of your precincts you don't get sued.

9 My plan is a very simply, very simple
10 stupid plan. Either you can come up with some
11 movers, some vehicles that you can devise in a
12 ward to take people and allow these seniors to
13 vote. And also they can do same-day voters
14 registration. They deserve to be able to vote.
15 These are the people whose shoulders that we
16 stand on.

17 Also, what it does, it eliminates the
18 size that they have to do curbside voting, or
19 even have to provide transportation. It is
20 nowhere in the world when I come to Fort Lincoln,
21 our largest building there is 360 units -- I'm
22 sorry, 316. If I get a 50-passenger bus, I'll be

1 busing people for a whole week just in one
2 building where I'm forced to practice social
3 distancing on a 50-passenger bus. Probably have
4 to reduce that number to maybe 20 people, not to
5 say that there's thousands in Ward 5, and another
6 thousand around the city.

7 Even though most of though most of the
8 homeowners live in homes, we have to be mindful
9 that we have nursing homes, assisted living, as I
10 said, part public and private buildings. And for
11 40 years one thing I can say, in Washington, Mr.
12 Bennett, they're calling me for the last five or
13 six years because the 441 has been a beautiful
14 place in my community to go because it's the only
15 place that have paper ballots on that early
16 voting.

17 They called me in this recent election
18 because I do (audio interference) and I do
19 consulting work for all of the candidates,
20 including the Mayor. They called me and said,
21 Bob, when are the seniors coming to 441? Kevin
22 wants to put the cones out.

1 I sent you pictures, pictures of these
2 seniors going in 441 to vote, and it looked like
3 a soup line. It reminded me of primary day, but
4 only it was a smaller number going into 441,
5 because that's where they go to do early voting
6 because there's paper ballots there.

7 Finally, based on the fact that with
8 the many things about the recent resurgence of
9 this pandemic we've seen with the underlying
10 causes, I can't think of anybody would want to
11 have seniors to go anywhere for any reason, early
12 voting or otherwise. Even the seniors who
13 normally work the precincts don't want to work
14 and fear coming down with this virus.

15 Even the mayor said on one of his talk
16 shows, said my mother and father they told me not
17 to even bring my daughter or the Mayor to the
18 house because they're fearful of the underlying
19 causes.

20 We have to have a pandemic. We're on
21 TV for our seniors. Not just open up 144
22 precincts and put one site in every ward and have

1 the seniors come there. And that's just not
2 going to work. That's not going to work because
3 you're going to get sued, because somebody's
4 going to come down with it unless you make them
5 all sign waivers. And they're not going to do
6 that. They don't want to work there, they don't
7 want to come out and vote.

8 Let's do what Spike Lee say, let's do
9 the right thing. You know, send these vehicles
10 around there. Get them registered in the
11 building, or even put drop boxes in the building.
12 Post on a website where they can take their
13 ballot. And we're probably talking about how
14 many folks that are in those buildings. Maybe
15 10,000 people. The other day I sent pictures,
16 too.

17 You know, we're talking about maybe
18 5,000 people, 6,000 people who are probably
19 registered. Registration is high in a senior
20 building because the District of Columbia first
21 voted for the president in 1961, and local
22 elections in '74, ANC elections in '76.

1 So, I have seniors in Fort Lincoln
2 say, hey, I don't vote in the local elections,
3 but I'm going to be voting in the presidential
4 election, in the second highest election in the
5 country since 1908 was 2008 when Obama came, when
6 roughly 139 million people voted for those
7 elections. And here is this thing, that could
8 knock the socks off of this election because of
9 the Dump Trump.

10 So, I'm urging, I'm begging the Board
11 of Elections to look at the 73 -- 71 apartment
12 buildings, the smallest is 20, the largest is
13 400-some units, and please help me figure out how
14 I can get those seniors citywide who want to
15 vote. If not, they'll be disenfranchised, and it
16 will be our fault because we have not given them
17 the right to have this civic honor on one of the
18 most important elections outside of the Obama
19 election.

20 And so, Mr. Bennett, I have laid it
21 out in statistics, the numbers, where these
22 people are. And as I said, Ward 5 have 17 of the

1 buildings. I'd say Ward 6, they have another 9.
2 Ward 3 has the smallest number senior buildings.
3 Ward 2 maybe have, have maybe 5 or 6. But I laid
4 out where these buildings are, the 71 senior
5 buildings, the number of units. Everything I
6 laid it out.

7 And as I said, they've been under
8 strict quarantine since, since March. Even in
9 Fort Lincoln family members can only come there
10 maybe once a week. So, I'm even asking not for
11 the pandemic, I'm asking that you continue the
12 loneliness and health issues because all of the
13 community have been offline. And I sent you that
14 information.

15 I sent you a picture of me doing
16 voters' registration and a guide about 15 years
17 ago. That has not changed. The community rooms
18 were the candidates come and ask for their votes.
19 We do ice cream socials, we have exercises. We
20 even have them meet pastors there, they cannot
21 come down to the community rooms.

22 CHAIR BENNETT: Mr. King. Mr. King,

1 I'm sorry for interrupting you but we passed
2 time. But I want to respond.

3 One, you don't have to beg us because
4 we really agree. And you may have submitted all
5 that data. I don't recall receiving it, and
6 that's not to say that you didn't send it. We
7 were moving at light speed during that time
8 frame.

9 But what I will ask you to do is let's
10 with regard to seniors, and anybody else on the
11 call that would like to do that, let's set up
12 something separate. What I'd like to have is a
13 list of those facilities. If you've already sent
14 them to us, that's great, just refer us back, to
15 Ms. Miller and I. And let's start figuring out a
16 plan to get to them.

17 I understand the whole issue around
18 quarantine. My mother is in an assisted living
19 facility that is also under quarantine. I
20 haven't had a chance to go since early March.
21 And so, I understand that those are challenges.
22 So, we've got to figure out how best to get the

1 information and the ballots to persons in those
2 buildings.

3 I mean it's clear, I agree with you,
4 you know, this isn't about having seniors who are
5 in quarantine come to a Vote Centers. So, I'm
6 sorry if that was the impression you got, because
7 that's certainly not what we were going to do.

8 But, so let's, let's try and plan a
9 separate thing and we'll figure it out.

10 Mr. King, was there something that you
11 wanted to -- do you want to close up to say?

12 MR. KING: I will just close up and
13 say I am encouraged by your spirit, your
14 willingness to cooperate and address seniors.
15 You've just made my day.

16 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. Well, I
17 appreciate you. And we certainly will try to do
18 that.

19 So let's, well, let me ask you, like
20 I said, and that's with Ms. Miller and I, and
21 we'll try and speak to -- the biggest thing I
22 think is we need to get a list and just try and

1 figure out a plan by connecting with the persons
2 who run these communities to think through what,
3 or to figure out, like, what makes sense relative
4 to how to get those persons their ballots in the
5 midst of a quarantine.

6 I don't have an answer right now. And
7 my guess is the answer may be a little different,
8 depending on the community. So, so we're trying
9 to focus on that and make sure that we do the
10 very best we can, so.

11 MR. KING: Yeah. We can talk (audio
12 interference) regarding the details in '65.

13 CHAIR BENNETT: Yeah.

14 MR. KING: That came out, I don't
15 know, we had a lot of problems.

16 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes. Well, I agree
17 with you. But this is a government meeting.
18 I'll just move on from there.

19 Thanks, Mr. King. And we'll join you
20 back.

21 Is there one more person that we can
22 hear from, Anthony, before we close up?

1 MR. HALES: Yes. I'm going to turn
2 over to Lauren Weiss.

3 And also, if we didn't get to your
4 question during the Q&A, we'll send an email.
5 I'll follow up with an email after that you can
6 submit your question in writing if we didn't get
7 to you,.

8 Ms. Lauren Weiss, you now have the
9 floor.

10 MS. WEISS: Hi.

11 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay.

12 MS. WEISS: Thank you so much for
13 hosting this event. I really appreciate it.

14 So, I'm a Ward 2 voter, and I have two
15 concerns that came up with regard to both of the
16 recent elections. One was that I moved in the
17 beginning of May, and I spent more than a month
18 trying to update my address, and ultimately took
19 some outreach on social media to get that to
20 happen.

21 So, I know you, you addressed in the
22 report wanting to send ballots to everybody, and

1 you addressed earlier that a lot of the ballots
2 were returned. And I think there are definitely
3 some issues with how people can update or change
4 their addresses that I would hope can be
5 addressed well in advance of the November
6 election. Hopefully, the new app will be better
7 at that than Vote4DC. So, that's one thing I
8 wanted to raise.

9 And then the other one was the
10 location of the in-person voting centers. So,
11 for the Ward 2 special election, I live at 17th
12 and T. And both of the in-person voting centers
13 were more than two miles from my house. And I
14 know for some folks, even for the June 2nd
15 election, where there were more voting centers
16 open, they also lived more than two miles from a
17 place where they could vote.

18 And I would really encourage you to
19 make sure that with the November election, since
20 you're hoping to open more Vote Centers, that
21 those are distributed a little more evenly
22 throughout the District so that for folks who do

1 have to vote in person there is -- they can walk
2 there. Because I anticipate that many people,
3 like myself, will not feel comfortable taking
4 public transportation and don't have private
5 vehicles to get around the city.

6 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay.

7 MS. MILLER: Do you want me to?

8 CHAIR BENNETT: Yes.

9 MS. MILLER: Thank you, Ms. Weiss, for
10 your comments. We appreciate that.

11 I would say you're right with respect
12 to Ward 2. Those centers are spread out fairly
13 far apart. Having gone to both of them yesterday
14 myself during the Ward 2 special elections. We
15 do have a really, really big challenge in Ward 2
16 with respect to locating voting facilities, and
17 especially those that can accommodate voters with
18 disabilities and in large numbers.

19 So, I would really encourage you or
20 anyone else that lives in the ward to provide us
21 with some places that you think might be able to
22 meet those demands. We don't have those -- those

1 are the only two places that we've used for early
2 voting for a long time, because those are the
3 only two places that are available to us and that
4 allow us to accommodate those with disabilities
5 as well.

6 So, that's a challenge. That's one of
7 the challenges that we have.

8 MS. WEISS: So, I know my, my previous
9 polling place was Foundry Church at 16th and P.
10 And I know they, they are definitely accessible
11 for folks with disabilities.

12 MS. MILLER: Right. That's for the
13 precinct, but yes.

14 So, for the Vote Centers, you know,
15 it's a little bit more of a challenge --

16 MS. WEISS: Okay.

17 MS. MILLER: -- to have, you know,
18 larger facilities --

19 MS. WEISS: Oh, I see. I see.

20 MS. MILLER: -- that we would need to
21 accommodate more voters.

22 So, that's what I'm speaking of. And,

1 yes, the Foundry Church would still be a
2 precinct. I don't think that would be an issue.
3 It's just for the Vote Centers, so.

4 CHAIR BENNETT: But let me also add,
5 too, that one of the things, sorry Ms. Miller,
6 but one of the things that was challenged during
7 the time we had to do the planning was we
8 selected only public facilities that the
9 administration had control over, because we
10 didn't know -- and there are a lot of private
11 facilities like the church that you mentioned
12 that, you know, like they weren't holding
13 services. And so, to allow people to come in to
14 vote was also not on the agenda.

15 So, all the private locations, like I
16 said, such as churches, we had no control over.
17 And, now it's true we didn't poll them all to see
18 whether or not they would let us in for voting or
19 not, but that was something that we just, you
20 know, for expediency's sake we, you know, drove
21 through and just focused on public facilities.

22 MS. MILLER: And one of the -- I'm not

1 trying to make an excuse -- but also with using
2 the public facilities we were able to coordinate
3 the assistance of the Department of General
4 Services, DGS, to continually have those
5 facilities cleaned throughout the day, and
6 sanitized and sterilized. They would not do that
7 with any private facility because they couldn't
8 get in.

9 So, again, we need support and help to
10 try to identify locations in the ward that would
11 allow us to use them and that are large enough to
12 accommodate both by size and accessibility
13 issues.

14 So, we appreciate the comment. Thank
15 you.

16 MS. WEISS: Thank you so much.

17 CHAIR BENNETT: Okay. We're a few
18 minutes over. If someone -- and I don't know why
19 I feel the urge -- if somebody else has a quick
20 comment, Anthony, that's raising their hand, if
21 you could bring them in, then we'll close up at
22 least for the moment.

1 MR. HALES: Okay. Ellen Boettcher.
2 Forgive me if I said it wrong. You now have the
3 floor. You can correct me on my pronunciation.

4 MS. BOETTCHER: Hi. My name is Ellen
5 Boettcher. But you were very close. Don't worry
6 about it.

7 MR. HALES: Hi. Thank you.

8 MS. BOETTCHER: So, I just wanted to
9 ask. I was reading the June 2020 primary
10 election recap on your website. And I guess just
11 in the next steps comment it talked about
12 recruiting experienced poll workers. And I guess
13 I was just hoping that you weren't going to be
14 exclusively recruiting experienced poll workers.
15 And wanted to see if you had any, like, plans for
16 recruiting new and younger poll workers for the
17 November election.

18 MS. MILLER: Thank you for that. Yes,
19 we will absolutely be recruiting all poll
20 workers. The reason for the experienced is in
21 the event that we are not able to do a lot of
22 hands-on training in person because of the virus,

1 the individuals not wanting to attend training or
2 us not being able to host them.

3 Obviously, our veteran workers do know
4 the process and have familiarity with how we work
5 elections, and the operations. So, that's not to
6 limit it, but it's just in the event that we're
7 not able to do training.

8 We want poll workers. We want younger
9 poll workers. We need younger poll workers. We
10 need individuals who are willing to volunteer
11 and, you know, to support this process and the
12 operation to get it done.

13 So, if you have 50 or 100 people that
14 you know would be willing and ready to come in
15 and help us, we definitely are interested in
16 having their names and their information so we
17 can reach out to them.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIR BENNETT: Thank you. With that
20 I'm going to close up. And I thank everybody for
21 participating.

22 We're going to do this again soon.

1 I'll try and select a date and get that posted as
2 soon as possible.

3 But more importantly, I want to make
4 sure that we get everybody starts -- so, please,
5 please, please, you know, if you've got a couple
6 of bullets that you want us to think about or
7 want us to consider, or some comments, certainly
8 please send them to us.

9 And we're going to, we're going to do
10 this again very soon. And more than anything is
11 just your support to make sure people know that
12 what, if there are some issues with regard to
13 their voter registration, update their
14 information as soon as possible.

15 And, you know, so we're going to just
16 keep moving and try and make this a very
17 effective process. But, know we are listening,
18 and we are not just listening, but we really want
19 input to make this thing better.

20 Thanks so much for your participation,
21 and hope to talk to you again real soon.

22 Thank you.

1 MR. HALES: Thank you, everyone. And
2 I'll also note, everyone who submitted a question
3 through the Q&A or a comment, I do have it. I
4 will copy and paste them and we will follow up
5 with those as much as possible.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIR BENNETT: All right. Thanks,
8 Anthony. Appreciate it.

9 MR. HALES: Thank you.

10 CHAIR BENNETT: Bye-bye.

11 (Whereupon, at 9:51 a.m., the above-
12 entitled matter was concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Board Meeting and Town Hall

Before: DCBOE

Date: 06-17-20

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.



Court Reporter

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