

HEARINGS ON MATTERS FOR THE MAY 14, 2019 SPECIAL ELECTION  
AND THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019 AT 1:30 P.M.  
42 BROADWAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM  
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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PRESENT:       President John Wm. Zaccone  
                  Secretary Patricia Anne Taylor

Commissioners Jose Araujo, John Flateau, Michael Michel, Simon Shamoun, Robert Siano, Tiffany Townsend, Frederic M. Umame

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director  
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director  
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager  
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager  
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel  
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel  
Steven Guglielmi, Director, Personnel  
Debra Leible, Coordinator, Election Day Operations  
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications & Public Affairs  
Rayvon Weaver, Project Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit  
Matthew Graves, Administrative Associate, Candidate Records Unit  
Raquel Torres, Administrative Assistant, Candidate Records Unit  
Thomas Haeberle, Administrative Assistant, Candidate Records Unit  
Raymond Riley, Chief Clerk, Brooklyn Office  
Daniel Ortiz, Deputy Chief Clerk, Brooklyn Office  
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners  
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST:       Anthony Beckford  
                  Jean H. Similien  
                  Hercules E. Reid  
                  Howard Graubard  
                  Bonnie Nelson  
                  Wendy Byrne

Kate Doran, LWV  
Katharine Loving, CFB  
Victor Jordan  
Guillermo Perez  
M. Reltzer

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President Zaccone called the meeting to order at 1:37 P.M.

President Zaccone announced that the Commissioners will be conducting the Hearings on Independent Nominating Petitions and related matters for the May 14, 2019 Special Election for Member of the New York City Council in the 45<sup>th</sup> Council District in Brooklyn.

President Zaccone stated the procedures to be followed during the Hearings and called upon Mr. Richman to call the Calendar for the Hearings. The Calendar was posted for the public as required.

Mr. Richman called the Candidate Records Unit (CRU) Prima Facie Report for Kings County. There was an appearance by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the CRU Prima Facie Report on file at the Board. The Commissioners' determinations are reflected on the Report on file at the Board.

Mr. Richman called the Clerks' Report for Kings County. There was an appearance by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the Clerks' Report on file at the Board. The Commissioners' determinations are reflected on the Report on file at the Board.

Commissioner Flateau moved to direct staff to immediately commence the preparation and distribution of Absentee and Special Ballots for the May 14, 2019 Special Election, based upon the actions taken to date by the Commissioners both in a duly constituted Commissioners' Committee and the full Board. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Umane moved that in the event any judicial proceeding is commenced challenging any action taken by the full Board of Commissioners or a duly constituted Committee thereof regarding petitions, cover sheets, and all matters relating to the candidates appearing on the ballot for the May 14, 2019 Special Election for City Council Member in the 45<sup>th</sup> District, the staff is directed to immediately request that the New York City Law Department represent the Board and/or the Commissioners and staff in such proceeding, defend the Board's actions, oppose any relief

sought, and any appeals. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adjourn the Hearings and convene the Stated Meeting of the Commissioners of Elections in the City of New York. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the minutes for the April 9, 2019 Commissioners' Meeting. President Zaccone seconded the motion, with Commissioner Flateau abstaining. The motion was adopted.

Ms. Leible presented the Poll Worker Exceptions Report for the May 14, 2019 Special Election in the 45<sup>th</sup> Council District in Brooklyn. Copies of the Report were distributed to the Commissioners for review. Ms. Leible noted that the Report has been previously approved by the Brooklyn Office Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Clerk and the Brooklyn Commissioners' Committee. Commissioner Shamoun moved for the full Board to adopt the Poll Worker Exceptions Report for the May 14, 2019 Special Election in the 45<sup>th</sup> Council District in Brooklyn as submitted. Commissioner Flateau seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan reported that the voter registration deadline for the May 14, 2019 Special Election is Saturday, May 4, 2019. He requested the hours of operation for the Brooklyn Office to be 9:00am through 5:00pm on Saturday, May 4, 2019 to accept voter registrations. Commissioner Shamoun moved to approve Mr. Ryan's request. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Richman requested to schedule the Hearings by borough for the June 25, 2019 Primary Election Hearings. Copies of the Draft Schedule were circulated to the Commissioners for review. After discussion, the Commissioners adopted the following schedule:

- **Thursday, April 25, 2019**
  - 9:30am – Citywide Primaries – Public Advocate
  - 10:00am – Bronx County
  - 10:30am – Kings County
  - Lunch Break
  - 1:00pm – Richmond County
  - 3:30pm – New York County
  
- **Friday, April 26, 2019 (Commissioners' Subcommittee – Commissioner Araujo & Commissioner Michel)**
  - 9:00am – Queens County

- Deferred matters, if any.

Commissioner Umame noted that the Commissioners' Subcommittee can be supplemented, if needed. Public Notice of the adopted Hearings schedule will be posted on the Board's website and at all Front Counters.

Mr. Richman requested for the appointment of a Commissioners' Cover Sheet Review Committee Meeting for Week # 3 for Designating Petitions for the June 25, 2019 Primary Election. The designated schedule follows:

- Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 2:00 P.M.

- President Zaccone and Commissioner Townsend

Public notice of the schedule will be posted on the Board's website and Front Counters.

President Zaccone reported that there is a personnel matter for Executive Session.

President Zaccone recognized Bonnie Nelson, a representative of the Brooklyn Voters Alliance, who spoke about Early Voting.

Commissioner Araujo moved to convene an Executive Session for personnel matters. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed and President Zaccone reported that action was taken on two (2) personnel matters and will be reported at a later date.

President Zaccone recognized Jean Similien, a member of the public, who inquired about his candidacy for the May 14, 2019 Special Election.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded, and unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 9:30 A.M.