

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 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 Miguelina Camilo, John Flateau, Michael Michel, Simon Shamoun, Frederic M. Umane

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director  
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director  
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager  
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager  
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel  
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications and Public Affairs  
Steven Guglielmi, Director, Personnel  
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners  
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST:       Wendy Byrne, LWV  
                  Jarret Berg, VENY  
                  Jan Combopiano, Brooklyn Voters Alliance  
                  Katharine Loving, NYC CFB  
                  Ethan Geringer-Sareth, Gotham Gazette  
                  Kate Doran, LWV  
                  Patricia Nolan, BVA  
                  Barbara Taylor  
                  Alan Flacks, Member of NY County Democratic Committee

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President Zaccone called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M.

Commissioner Flateau moved to adopt the minutes from the September 24, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Camilo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

President Zaccone moved to adopt the minutes from the October 1, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Shamoun seconded the motion, with Secretary Taylor, Commissioners Flateau and Michel abstaining. The motion was not adopted due to a lack of quorum. There was a consensus among the Commissioners to table the minutes for one (1) week.

Mr. Ryan recalled that there was an amendment in the New York State Election Law regarding Party enrollment change. February 14<sup>th</sup> is the new date that a registered voter is eligible to change their Party enrollment before the April and June Primary Elections. Mr. Ryan reported that all voters in the AVID system who had a pending “Future Party” enrollment change have been updated in accordance with the new law.

Mr. Ryan provided Early Voting updates. The information is as follows:

- Poll Worker Recruitment

- For the period of July 1, 2019 through October 8, 2019, there is a total of 10,278 poll worker applicants. Last year during the same time period, there were 6,581 applicants;
- Poll Worker Training
  - Regular poll worker training commenced on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 75% citywide has been completed to date;
  - Early Voting training commenced on October 5<sup>th</sup> and 70% citywide has been completed to date;
  - The Borough Offices are on track to complete training to meet Election Day needs;
- The cabinets for the Ballot On Demand (BOD) printers will be delivered on Friday, October 11, 2019;
- Ms. Vazquez provided a demonstration of the Board's newly designed website and media kit for the Commissioners' review and consideration. Mr. Savino provided an update on the FOIL requirements and exemptions concerning the disclosure of voters' email addresses and cell phone numbers that may be submitted on the Board's website for updates. Mr. Savino recited the decision by the Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Second Department, New York, In the Matter of Livson V. Town of Greenburgh. It was determined by the court that the private

vendor's list was also the agency's list, therefore, email addresses were deemed public information. Mr. Ryan noted that email addresses provided on the Board's website will not be connected to the AVID voter registration system. At the request of the Commissioners, Ms. Vazquez and Mr. Savino will create language for a public disclaimer for the "Email Updates" section on the website and will be placed "under construction" until further notice. Commissioner Umame recommended adding the exemption of people's email addresses and telephone numbers in the Board's Recommended Revisions to the New York State Election Law in the future. After the demonstration, Ms. Vazquez requested approval by the Commissioners to move forward with the Board's newly designed website and media kit, and to go live on October 15, 2019. Secretary Taylor moved to approve the media kit and newly designed website with an amendment to place the "Email Updates" function under construction until further notice. Commissioner Flateau seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Umame requested to discuss personnel and litigation matters in Executive Session.

Commissioner Shamoun moved to convene Executive Session for pending litigation and personnel matters. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed. President Zaccone reported that there was discussion on pending litigation and action was taken on personnel matters which will be reported at a later date.

The following actions were taken by unanimous decision of the Board of Commissioners in Executive Session:

- I. Gail Kearney, a Trainer Assistant, was granted 70 hours of an Advance of Time. The grant will be effective September 18, 2019. Ms. Kearney's agency start date is January 1, 2016;
- II. Robert D. Siano was appointed Acting Republican Deputy Chief Clerk in the Bronx Office, at the outgoing salary. Mr. Siano will

assume the role as Deputy Chief Clerk effective October 13, 2019.

Commissioner Umame reported that Commissioner Siano submitted his resignation in writing to President Zaccone on Friday, October 4, 2019. The Republican Commissioners' Caucus designated Commissioner Umame to handle any administrative matters for Bronx County until the new Bronx Republican Party Commissioner is designated and appointed.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 1:30 P.M.

Commissioner Michel moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Camilo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.