

HEARINGS ON INDEPENDENT NOMINATING PETITION
MATTERS FOR THE MARCH 24, 2020 SPECIAL ELECTION AND
THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Patricia Anne Taylor
 Secretary Frederic M. Umane

Commissioners Jose Araujo, Miguelina Camilo, John Flateau, Michael Michel, Simon Shamoun, Tiffany Townsend, John Wm. Zaccone

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
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications and Public Affairs
Steven Guglielmi, Director, Personnel
Amanda Berinato, Chief Clerk, Queens Office
Bart Haggerty, Deputy Chief Clerk, Queens Office
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Katharine Loving, NYC Campaign Finance Board
 Rasheta Bunting
 Daniel Maio
 Abigail Denos
 Michael Reich
 Danny Esquilin
 Oscar Ruiz
 Kate Doran, LWV
 M. Connor
 Erica Cohen, BVA

Hadeel Mishal, OPA
Pat Nolan, BVA
Julie Kerr, BVA
Eve Grassfield, Mayor's Office
Jan Combopiano, BVA
Wendy Byrne, LWV
Bonnie Nelson, BVA
Ali Najmi, for Constantides
Everly Brown

President Taylor called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M

President Taylor convened the Hearings on Independent Nominating Petitions and related matters for the March 24, 2020 Special Election for Queens Borough President.

President Taylor 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 Legal Prima Facie Report for Queens County. In selected instances, there were appearances by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the Legal 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 Candidate Records Unit (CRU) Prima Facie Report for Queens County. In selected instances, there were appearances by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the CRU Facie Report on file at the Board. The Commissioners' determinations are reflected on the Report on file at the Board.

Mr. Denkberg called the Clerks' Reports for Queens County. In selected instances, there were appearances by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the Clerks' Reports on file at the Board. The Commissioners' determinations are reflected on each Clerks' Report acted upon.

Mr. Richman reported on three (3) supplemental matters for the Commissioners' review and determination. Copies of the materials were circulated to the Commissioners. The matters are as follows:

1. The Board received a timely cure for the "Queens Progressives" independent body name which exceeded fifteen (15) characters. The Certificate submitted by the candidate has changed the name to "QnsProgressives" which meets the statutory requirements of fifteen (15) characters or less. After review, Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the Certificate as

a valid cure. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted;

2. The Board received a timely cure for the “Red Dragon” independent body. The Certificate with attachment cured the emblem of the independent body. After review, Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the Certificate as a valid cure. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted;

3. The Board received an Amended Cover Sheet for “Queens Progressives” Independent Nominating Petition, however, it lacks certification per the Board’s Independent Nominating Petition Rule C-3. Mr. Richman reported that this Amended Cover Sheet is an invalid cure. After review, Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt Mr. Richman’s recommendation as presented. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Richman presented the Counsel’s Report on ballot order for candidates in the March 24, 2020 Special Election regarding simultaneous filings. Copies of the report were circulated for review. Mr. Richman reported that the Office of the General Counsel, following consultation with

the Ballot Coordinator, recommended that the Commissioners direct that at the conclusion of their hearings on matters relating to the Special Election, if two or more of the candidates who filed between 9:00 A.M. and 9:02 A.M. on January 6, 2020 remain on the Special Election ballot, then the Board staff shall conduct a drawing by lot among said candidates utilizing the approved system used by the Board and the State Board for Primary Elections. There were appearances by a candidate and/or their representative. After discussion, Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the Counsels' recommendation for Board staff to conduct a random drawing by lot among said candidates as presented. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. The Board will conduct a random drawing of the order of the ballot for the March 24, 2020 Queens Borough President Special Election on Thursday, January 30, 2020 at 10:00 AM located at 42 Broadway, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10004 until completion. Public notice will be posted on the Board's website and front counters.

Commissioner Araujo thanked the Queens Office staff for their hard work in the short timeframe.

Commissioner Araujo moved to direct staff to immediately commence the preparation and distribution of Military, Absentee and Special Ballots for the March 24, 2020 Special Election, based upon the actions taken to date by the Commissioners both in a duly constituted Commissioners' Committee and the full Board. Commissioner Fleteau seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Zaccone 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 sheet and all matters relating to the candidates appearing on the ballot for the March 24, 2020 Special Election for Queens Borough President, 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 Araujo 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 January 14, meeting. Commissioner Zaccone seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Richman reported on the Revised Draft Designating and OTB Petition Filing Calendar for the June 23, 2020 Primary Elections. Copies of the Revised Draft Calendar were circulated to the Commissioners for review. Mr. Richman recommended the following schedules for Hearings:

- Hearings on Designating Petitions and related matters on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, Wednesday, April 22, 2020 and Thursday, April 23, 2020 (if necessary) beginning at 10:00 A.M., and;
- Hearings on Opportunity to Ballot (OTB) Petitions on Thursday, April 30, 2020 beginning at 1:30 P.M.

Commissioner Zaccone moved to adopt the Designating and OTB Petition Filing Calendar as presented. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Public notice will be posted on the Board's website and front counters.

Mr. Ryan reported that the Queens Commissioners' Committee, in consultation with the Queens Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Clerk, discussed and recommended Election District (ED) combines for the March 24, 2020 Special Election in Queens County. Commissioner Araujo moved for full Board approval of the recommended ED combines for the March 24, 2020 Special Election in Queens County. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Araujo reported that the Queens Commissioners' Committee, in consultation with the Queens Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Clerk, drafted a proposed Early Voting hours schedule for the March 24, 2020 Special Election in Queens County. Copies of the proposed schedule were circulated to the Commissioners for review. Commissioner Araujo moved for the full Board to adopt the Queens Commissioners' Committee's recommendation as presented. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Araujo reported that the Queens Commissioners' Committee, in consultation with the Queens Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Clerk, recommended to adjust the poll worker bonus to match the hours

actually worked for the March 24, 2020 Special Election in Queens County. Commissioner Araujo moved for the full Board to adopt the poll worker bonus adjustment as presented. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Richman reported on the Draft Recommended 2020 Revisions to the New York State Election Law for the Albany Education Day meetings with Legislators and Governor's staff scheduled on Wednesday, February 12, 2020. Copies of the draft proposals were previously circulated to the Commissioners for review. Commissioner Zaccone recommended to change Proposal #20-14 to Proposal #20-01. Commissioner Zaccone moved to adopt the Draft Recommended 2020 Revisions to the New York State Election Law as modified. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan reported that the 2020 Commissioners' Committees and Chairs have been designated. The list was previously circulated to the Commissioners for review. Mr. Ryan noted that a copy of the list will be attached in the minutes. Commissioner Zaccone thanked President Taylor for organizing the 2020 Commissioners' Committees.

Mr. Ryan reported that Brooklyn Council Member Rafael Espinal has submitted a letter of resignation. The Board is waiting for the Proclamation of Election from the Mayor. Mr. Ryan noted that a Special Election will be held during the April 28, 2020 Presidential Primary Election wholly contained in Brooklyn.

President Taylor recognized the following speaker for public comment:

1. Jan Combopiano.

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

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed. President Taylor reported that personnel matters were discussed and the actions will be reported in the minutes.

The following personnel action was taken by unanimous decision of the Board of Commissioners in Executive Session on January 28, 2020:

- I. Abigail McGloster, a Senior Administrator, was granted 182 hours of an Advance of Time. The grant will be effective January 23, 2020. Ms. McGloster's agency start date is March 25, 2012.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 1:30 P.M.

Commissioner Flateau moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Zaccone seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Board of Elections in the City of New York
Standing Committees for 2020

Executive	President: Commissioner Taylor Secretary: Commissioner Umame
Budget & Finance	Brooklyn Democrat- Co-Chair Commissioner Umame- Co-Chair
Communications, Voter Registration and Outreach	Commissioner Townsend- Chair Commissioner Camilo Commissioner Shamoun Bronx Republican
Management Information Systems and Services	Brooklyn Democrat- Co-Chair Commissioner Shamoun- Co-Chair
Legislative Affairs	Commissioner Camilo- Co-Chair Commissioner Zaccone- Co-Chair
Personnel/Investigations	Commissioner Michel- Chair Brooklyn Democrat Commissioner Townsend Bronx Republican
Ballot Layout Committee	Commissioner Araujo- Chair Commissioner Michel Commissioner Zaccone Commissioner Taylor
Early Voting Committee	Commissioner Camilo- Co-Chair Commissioner Zaccone- Co-Chair
Real Estate/Facilities	Commissioner Umame- Chair Commissioner Camilo Commissioner Taylor Commissioner Shamoun

As of 2/3/2020