

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2024 AT 1:00 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Rodney L. Pepe-Souvenir
Secretary Frederic M. Umane

Commissioners Jose M. Araujo, Michael J. Coppotelli, Carol R. Edmead, Gino A. Marmorato, Jodi Morales, Simon Shamoun, Michele A. Sileo

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Vincent M. Ignizio, Deputy Executive Director
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Michael Corbett, Administrative Manager
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUESTS: Beloved Karen Theodore
Victor Malyar

Mr. Ryan opened the meeting with item #1 of the meeting agenda, the approval of the minutes of the June 11, 2024 Commissioners Meeting.

Hearing no objections, the minutes of the June 11, 2024 Commissioners Meeting were adopted as submitted.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #2 of the meeting agenda, an Executive Session for personnel matters, however, there are two individuals who have signed up that wish to address the Commissioners.

Mr. Ryan acknowledged the first guest, Beloved Karen Theodore.

Beloved Karen Theodore introduced herself and stated that she is very frustrated as an educated woman in New York City trying to conduct business as an accountant. She stated that she has worked for a lot of non-profit organizations in the Bronx and feels that these organizations lack integrity and are not zealous on any level to conduct business with the fulfillment of the mission and vision statements that they publicize. Ms. Theodore stated that she'd like to bring this knowledge and awareness to the Board for the sake of action in the form of oversight. Ms. Theodore also stated that she feels that candidates who are assigned to represent people in communities as networks should keep in mind that as individuals we are held to a high level of accountability, including companies and corporations.

Secretary Umane advised Ms. Theodore that she should speak to the Attorney General's Charity, noting that they have direct authority over Not-for-Profits such as the ones that she is discussing and there is nothing that the Board can do to help with this matter.

The Commissioners advised Ms. Theodore that the purpose of the NYC Board of Elections is to administer elections; we do not choose the candidates. The Board does not have authority as to who is on the ballot, other than people who rightfully file petitions with the Board of Elections. Once they are on the ballot, we conduct the actual election that the voters of New York participate in.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Theodore for appearing before them today.

Mr. Ryan noted that there was another individual who indicated that he wished to speak but has already left the room.

President Pepe-Souvenir moved to set the date of the next meeting for Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 1:00 P.M. to certify the June 25, 2024 Primary Election. Secretary Umame seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adjourn the open meeting and convene an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. President Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Following the Executive Session the open meeting resumed.

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

- Heather Guerriero, a Financial Clerk, was granted 210 hours of an advance of sick time. The effective date of the grant is May 17, 2024. Ms. Guerriero's agency start date is October 8, 2018.
- Trena Belanger, an Administrative Associate, was granted 210 hours of an advance of sick time. The effective date of the grant is June 6, 2024. Ms. Belanger's agency start date is February 20, 2022.
- Walquida Soto, a Clerk, was granted 49 hours of an advance of sick time. The effective date of the grant is May 16, 2024. Ms. Soto's agency start date is September 2, 2018.
- Luz Ortega, an Associate Staff Analyst, was granted 60 hours of an advance of sick time. The effective date of the grant is June 10, 2024. Ms. Ortega's agency start date is July 14, 2002.
- Benjamin Acevedo, an Administrative Associate, was granted 210 hours of an advance of sick time. The effective date of the grant is July 2, 2024. Mr. Acevedo's agency start date is March 5, 1995.

- Dominique Davis, an Administrative Associate, was granted 35 hours of an advance of sick time. The effective date of the grant is June 24, 2024. Ms. Davis' agency start date is April 4, 2014.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners of Elections is scheduled for Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 1:00 P.M., and it is expected that the June Primary Election will be certified at that date and time.