

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

42 Broadway - 6th floor
Commissioners' Hearing Room

New York, NY 10004

October 6, 2020

1:30 - 2:42 p.m.

October 6, 2020

PRESENT:

President Patricia Ann Taylor

Secretary Frederic Umane

Commissioner Jose Araujo

Commissioner Miguelina Camilo

Commissioner Michael Michel

Commissioner Gino Marmorato

Commissioner Simon Shamoun

Commissioner Tiffany Townsend

Commissioner John Wm. Zaccone

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director

Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director

Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager

Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager

Steven Denkberg, Commissioners' Counsel

Kenneth Moltner, Commissioners' Counsel

Rafael Savino, Deputy General Counsel

1 October 6, 2020

2 (The meeting commenced at 1:36 p.m.)

3 MR. MICHAEL J. RYAN: We are live and
4 today is October 6, 2020. And it's the regular
5 weekly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of
6 Elections in the City of New York. I will start
7 with the roll call. President Taylor?

8 PRESIDENT PATRICIA ANNE TAYLOR: I am
9 present. I am present.

10 MR. RYAN: Yes, Secretary Umane?

11 SECRETARY FREDERIC UMANE: Present.

12 MR. RYAN: Commissioner Araujo?

13 COMMISSIONER JOSE ARAUJO: Present.

14 MR. RYAN: Commissioner Marmarato?

15 COMMISSIONER GINO MARMORATO: Present.

16 MR. RYAN: Oh, Commissioner Camilo?

17 COMMISSIONER CAMILO: Present.

18 MR. RYAN: Commissioner Michel?

19 COMMISSIONER MICHAEL MICHEL: Present.

20 MR. RYAN: Commissioner Shamoun?

21 COMMISSIONER SHAMOUN: Present, thank
22 you.

23 MR. RYAN: Thank you. Commissioner
24 Townsend?

1 October 6, 2020

2 COMMISSIONER TIFFANY TOWNSEND: Good
3 afternoon, present.

4 MR. RYAN: And Commissioner Zaccone?

5 COMMISSIONER JOHN WM. ZACCONE: Good
6 afternoon everyone, present.

7 MR. RYAN: Good afternoon. My name is
8 Michael Ryan, I am the executive director of the
9 board. Seated to my left is deputy executive
10 director Sandow. Elsewhere in the building are
11 participating administrative manager Pamela
12 Perkins and operations manager, Georgea
13 Kontazmanis. We also have counsel to the
14 commissioners, Steven Denkberg and Kenneth
15 Moltner online and seated at the table in front
16 of me is deputy general counsel Rafael Savino.

17 Ready to proceed with item 1A on the
18 agenda. It's an update regarding the general
19 election for November 3rd. As I'm sure that all
20 the commissioners are aware and we have
21 discussed, there was an issue with absentee
22 ballot distribution in Brooklyn. There were a
23 number of reports and it was confirmed, that some
24 of the voters in Brooklyn received the wrong oath

1 October 6, 2020

2 envelope, the proper ballot but the wrong oath
3 envelope.

4 Ultimately, the resolution was that we
5 resent over 99,000 Brooklyn voters an entirely
6 new ballot packet. That process began over the
7 end of last week and continued throughout the
8 weekend. And as of today, all of those resent
9 ballots have been processed by the vendor and
10 will be completed actually by the close of
11 business today. There was a few more over the
12 weekend that needed to go through and they will
13 get a letter explaining the issue and providing
14 the appropriate direction to the voters.

15 In addition, we are contacting voters
16 for those that we have e-mails and we'll be doing
17 a robocall to those voters that were affected as
18 well and we have blanketed all of our available
19 media outlets with advertisements and
20 instructions on what is going on and how it's
21 being remedied. And that started late last week.
22 That includes borough newspapers and language
23 specific newspapers as well. And we added into
24 our outreach for Brooklyn only this messaging

1 October 6, 2020

2 will be on the LinkNYC kiosks throughout the
3 borough and also any social media outlets that we
4 have available to us.

5 So that circumstance has been remedied
6 and we'll be moving forward accordingly. In
7 addition -- yes.

8 COMMISSIONER SHAMOUN: Director Ryan?

9 MR. RYAN: Yes?

10 COMMISSIONER SHAMOUN: Simon Shamoun, I
11 thin, the connection was just bad so maybe you
12 did give this information. When can voters expect
13 to see these corrected envelopes and ballots in
14 their mailboxes?

15 MR. RYAN: They should start seeing
16 them, commissioner, this week. We did indicate
17 that the week of October, the 9th would be
18 Friday. But given the volume, they went out on a
19 rolling basis and some were processed Friday,
20 Saturday, and now the last several will be today.
21 And so they should be getting them within the
22 next few days, which still brings us to
23 approximately four weeks, you know, four full
24 weeks before election, before the deadline.

1 October 6, 2020

2 MS. KONTAZMANIS: And can I add
3 something, gentlemen? Let's not forget that
4 voters can see the information on the tracking
5 portal, the information for the reprinted ballot
6 will be updated on the tracking portal as well.

7 MR. RYAN: Yeah.

8 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Thank you.

9 MR. RYAN: Are there any other questions
10 regarding this matter?

11 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Could I ask,
12 Commissioner Shamoun, as you are in Brooklyn,
13 have you seen any social media or other kinds of
14 [unintelligible] [00:11:44] about this? You know,
15 because I wouldn't see it, I'm in Staten Island.

16 COMMISSIONER SHAMOUN: I haven't seen
17 anything specific on my social media feeds if you
18 will. But I've seen a lot of Board of Elections
19 advertising, which is a good thing.

20 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER SHAMOUN: And I think we
22 should continue to do that.

23 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Wonderful, thank you.
24 Go ahead, Mr. Ryan.

1 October 6, 2020

2 MR. RYAN: Yes, and then we, getting on
3 to the poll sites, or actually there will be a
4 public service announcement going out on Brooklyn
5 News 12. I don't have the specific date when
6 that's going to occur, but that's going to be
7 happening as well.

8 Poll sites, there have been reports
9 about hot zones, COVID hot zones popping up.
10 Presently, we're only aware of locations in
11 Brooklyn and Queens. There are 79 election day
12 sites within those hot zones, 16 in Queens, 63 in
13 Brooklyn, five early voting sites, one in Queens,
14 four in Brooklyn. And we are working very closely
15 with our partners in those affected areas to
16 ensure the continuity of elections operations
17 despite the fact that COVID is a reality that we
18 all have to deal with. So we're working together
19 to ensure that the voting will not be
20 interrupted.

21 And while this is certainly a cause for
22 concern, it's the same circumstance that we found
23 ourselves in, in June, that, you know, we have to
24 just be in a position to be remedial and adaptive

1 October 6, 2020

2 as these circumstances arise. So now, in
3 addition, we will, out of the four of the five
4 boroughs, the commissioners will be, if they have
5 not already been, in communication with their
6 borough chief and deputies. And there are going
7 to be approximately 20 emergency poll site
8 changes spread out over four boroughs.

9 So it's a relatively low number and it
10 is, my understanding is that that's primarily in,
11 exclusively in some private sites that had some
12 operational difficulties that are forcing us to
13 make these changes. Once it's completed in the
14 system, the poll site changes will be going out
15 this week, likely commencing on Thursday and all
16 of these changes are related to the COVID-19
17 pandemic. I know that folks are sensitive about
18 poll site moves, but these are emergency poll
19 site moves for a reason and the staffs in the
20 respective boroughs have stayed on top of this
21 situation and are acting as expeditiously as
22 possible.

23 We have received the finalized list from
24 the Civic Engagement Commission of 25 early

1 October 6, 2020

2 voting sites where they will be providing
3 translators for the November election. There are
4 sites in all five boroughs and it should be
5 pointed out that they will only be providing
6 translator services for the last 12 hours of
7 early voting in that week. That would be the
8 Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding
9 election day. They do not have staffing for the
10 other seven days of early voting, only for the
11 last two.

12 That came in late last night and
13 election day sites have not yet been provided.
14 Borough staffs have been sent the lists to review
15 and to see if there are any operational issues
16 that need to be addressed. That's all the
17 information that we have on that.

18 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: Director Ryan?

19 MR. RYAN: Yes?

20 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: Can you please
21 circulate that list to the commissioners as well?

22 MR. RYAN: Yes, I'm certain that's not
23 an issue. That was received, Ms. Sandow advised
24 it came in about 8:00 o'clock last night, so

1 October 6, 2020

2 we'll get it out to you.

3 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Thank you.

4 MR. RYAN: Okay. For those of you who
5 may have not have heard, the City Council took
6 action yesterday with respect to the 12th council
7 district and expelled the representative in that
8 district. That now starts the process of the
9 calling of a special election now that there is a
10 vacancy pursuant to the city charter. The mayor
11 has three days by which to issue the
12 proclamation, and then it will be, since the
13 vacancy is occurring now, it will be under the
14 rules that presently exist.

15 This special election will be
16 nonpartisan and will be held before the end of
17 the year. It is likely that it will be the week
18 before Christmas, and this is in the Bronx. If
19 this is the case, that will then also start a
20 petition filing period that we will need to
21 address as well as early voting for that
22 election. Right, the filing period will start
23 before early voting for this election, but we'll
24 also have to provide for early voting for that

1 October 6, 2020

2 election as well. And it affects a total of 141
3 voting districts and about just shy of 91,000
4 voters in the borough of the Bronx. And that
5 district is wholly contained within the Bronx.

6 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Could we note that
7 there will not be any ranked choice voting?

8 MR. RYAN: Well, that doesn't go into
9 effect until January 1, 2021, so yes.

10 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Yes. I've had
11 questions about that.

12 MR. RYAN: Yeah, so poll worker
13 training, online training for the accessibility
14 and the interpreter position has commenced. The
15 poll workers in these categories are receiving
16 communication and have invited them to
17 participate in the online training. It is the
18 same as in person classes, except it will be done
19 in a virtual environment and the material will be
20 reviewed and testing at the conclusion of the
21 process. And the poll workers have a finite
22 period of one week to complete the training and
23 we expect as this process will continue on a
24 rolling basis that we will have more information

1 October 6, 2020

2 to report on that next week.

3 Absentee ballots, as of the close of
4 business yesterday, October 5th, we had received
5 and processed 658,420 absentee ballot
6 applications. And as of the close of business
7 yesterday, there were only 2,791 applications in
8 the queue. So that means that 99 percent of all
9 applications received to date were processed and
10 sent out for mailing. So we know that we're
11 keeping up with it well, but as with all of these
12 processes, those totals are replenished on a
13 daily basis as new applications come in. And it
14 looks like, we'll report out later when we have
15 more specific numbers, but suffice it to say for
16 today's purposes, the majority of the
17 applications are coming through the portal and
18 not through the paper process, which allows us to
19 more expeditiously process them. So we're
20 grateful for that.

21 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: I'm sorry, I'm
22 just curious, is anybody requesting by phone?

23 MR. RYAN: Very, statistically
24 insignificant amounts are requesting by phone and

1 October 6, 2020

2 e-mail. So that's also --

3 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: I was just
4 curious.

5 MR. RYAN: -- that's also a benefit to
6 us, because it's a little bit more of a process
7 to deal with, but what we did in June to overcome
8 that, and we're doing it now and it seems to work
9 well. When somebody calls, the call takers have
10 the ability to log into a special online portal
11 for our employees, and essentially what we do is
12 take the information over the phone, plug it into
13 the online portal and then it gets processed
14 along with the online portal applications. So
15 that was a good way of dealing with the telephone
16 calls and still getting the benefit of having the
17 online portal process.

18 Alright, and so the last day to register
19 is Friday, this coming Friday, October 9th. These
20 are reminders. All of the borough offices will be
21 open until 9:00 p.m. and the boroughs are keeping
22 up with their queues and we're going through that
23 regular process with that last minute rush of
24 absentee, excuse me, of, of voter registration

1 October 6, 2020

2 forms, and we're keeping up with that as well,
3 and that's also a good thing. And so those voters
4 should look out for the notices in the mail
5 confirming that they have been added to the voter
6 roles. And it will then provide their information
7 about poll sites and etc.

8 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: Mr. Ryan, this is
9 Commissioner Araujo. Just a quick question,
10 regarding the last day to register is there any
11 way we could put some kind of -- if it's not
12 there already, on our website, some kind of
13 notice right up front on our home screen that the
14 last day is October 9th.

15 MR. RYAN: Yeah. The information is
16 always on the website, but I understand what
17 you're saying and we'll work on making it more
18 prominently featured and I think for folks that
19 look at our website, we do have better
20 flexibility in terms of moving information around
21 and prioritizing information as it's required, so
22 that's a good thing. But that's a good
23 suggestion, so thank you.

24 In any event, ballot drop boxes have

1 October 6, 2020

2 been available at all of our borough offices and
3 the general office and we're urging anyone who so
4 desires that they can drop off their absentee
5 ballots as early as possible, whether they
6 utilize the mail or they come into our offices
7 and drop them off. The boroughs have worked very
8 nicely to have convenient locations in their
9 buildings. Every building is different, but they
10 have convenient locations in their building with
11 the same ballot drop box that we have at the poll
12 sites, they're at the borough offices as well,
13 and we're getting a healthy rate of return on
14 those absentee ballots via in-person delivery as
15 well as in a separate process, folks are availing
16 themselves of the voting in office option, which
17 is just another way to vote by absentee.

18 So that concludes Item 1A, unless the
19 commissioners have any questions.

20 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: This is
21 Commissioner Araujo. I just want to make one more
22 comment as well. I availed myself to the portal.
23 I availed myself to the tracking system, and I
24 actually handed my ballot in earlier in the week,

1 October 6, 2020

2 and I was surprised to also see that afterwards,
3 you're also able to see through the tracking
4 system where your ballot is being processed
5 within the borough and it actually shows that
6 it's been processed. So it gave me a sense of
7 security knowing that not only is it tracking it
8 on the frontend, but also on the backend for the
9 voters, and I just wanted to thank the staff for
10 that because it's really comforting.

11 MR. RYAN: Thank you, commissioner. And
12 I must say, our staff up and down the line
13 deserves a tremendous amount of credit for that.
14 They worked very hard to create this layer of
15 responsibility and transparency, right.
16 Responsibility to give the information to the
17 voters, and also making that information
18 available for the voters so that they can have
19 and enjoy the same level of comfort that you did,
20 commissioner, so thank you for pointing that out.

21 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Let's give the staff
22 a round of applause. A round of applause please
23 to the staff.

24 SECRETARY UMANE: Mike, anything doing

1 October 6, 2020

2 on the nursing homes?

3 MR. RYAN: On the nursing homes, the
4 executive order indicated that we were to mail
5 out to the nursing homes, so our permanent
6 absentees, our militaries and overseas all went
7 out in that first wave of mailing out to those
8 locations.

9 SECRETARY UMANE: Are we doing anything
10 to assure that the actual patients will be the
11 ones who are voting, given that many of them
12 suffer various disabilities and other sorts of
13 physical problems?

14 MR. RYAN: So, my understanding is that
15 the borough offices, to varying degrees get in
16 touch with the nursing home facilities and stay
17 on top of that. But since we are not in a
18 position to enter those facilities, we then, as a
19 process, must rely on the professionalism of the
20 people that run those facilities and are charged
21 with the care of those individuals to deliver
22 those ballots directly to those voters.

23 And then Item B is the report on the New
24 York City Committee on Governmental Operations.

1 October 6, 2020

2 So a lot of what we discussed at the hearing has
3 already been discussed at our own meetings in
4 various ways. So we did a report on what occurred
5 in June and some of the challenges that arose and
6 the corrective measures or adjustments if you
7 will, that were made, including the portal and
8 the absentee ballot tracker as being two main
9 elements of this.

10 We also advised the City Council and
11 this really hasn't been getting enough attention,
12 but I'd like to put out three numbers for today'
13 purposes, 61, 79 and 88. Sixty-one is the number
14 of early voting locations that we had for the
15 November 2019 general election. Seventy-nine is
16 the number of early voting locations that we had
17 for the June primary. Eighty-eight is the number
18 of early voting locations that we have for this
19 general election. We have gone up 18 and then an
20 additional nine, 27 more sites now than there
21 were this time a year ago, in the middle of a
22 national emergency.

23 So while other jurisdictions are cutting
24 the number of sites, New York City is adding

1 October 6, 2020

2 sites and making voting more accessible and
3 taking our responsibility with respect to social
4 distancing. By adding sites, you reduce the
5 number of voters assigned to each site. So we
6 have about a 45 percent increase, a 42 to 45
7 percent increase of the number of early voting
8 locations in a 12 month span during a pandemic.
9 And that does not get enough attention, but I
10 think it's a big deal.

11 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Are we doing anything
12 to push people towards the early voting sites?

13 MR. RYAN: Yes. The commissioners have
14 approved a public outreach program that we're
15 engaging in, which is again going out on all of
16 those different media between digital and
17 advertising and such. And basically it's the
18 same message that we have included in the annual
19 information notice, which starts off with the
20 masthead Vote Safe NYC, and then you have the
21 Statue of Liberty wearing the city mask. We
22 stopped from making a giant one and putting it on
23 the actual Statue of Liberty. We did the next
24 best thing, putting it on the graphic. But it's a

1 October 6, 2020

2 way to be a little bit eye catching and to get
3 people's attention. And we spell out to them the
4 various options. Now, ultimately, the voters
5 have the right to choose their method of voting,
6 whether it be absentee, early and early in
7 person, absentee in person at the offices or
8 availing themselves of the mail process, and then
9 on election day. So we have that all spelled out
10 in our public outreach to let the voters know
11 here's the different ways that you can
12 participate in democracy in this, in this
13 election. And -- go ahead, I'm sorry,
14 commissioner.

15 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: I'm sorry, go ahead.

16 MR. RYAN: No.

17 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: No, I was going to
18 say it has been suggested that it might be worth
19 mentioning that the early voting sites will have
20 fewer people most of the time and might be
21 considered more healthful for people who are --
22 who don't want to use the absentee ballot
23 process, but who are concerned about going on
24 election day.

1 October 6, 2020

2 MR. RYAN: Yes.

3 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: So we want to make
4 sure that we focus on that.

5 MR. RYAN: Well, I think, you know, it's
6 understandable that early voting has not perhaps
7 received as much attention from the voters yet,
8 because we haven't quite -- it's coming up soon,
9 but we haven't quite hit the one year anniversary
10 of early voting, and we've done it in two
11 elections. This will be the third, so people are
12 maybe not as aware of it as they otherwise could
13 be.

14 But your point nonetheless commissioner
15 is well taken, in that it's spread out over nine
16 days, so if somebody waits until election day to
17 vote, then it's an all or nothing event for that
18 person. Either they complete their vote on
19 Tuesday or they don't, but you know, waiting to
20 that last minute for the majority of voters is
21 something that we should discourage rather than
22 encourage, right. So, we have now quiet a number
23 of absentee ballot applicants, we have now nine
24 days of early voting spread out over 88

1 October 6, 2020

2 locations. Folks should avail themselves of that.
3 And the suggestion that I would make, let's say
4 you're going to go out to vote early on a
5 Saturday and you're going out to do some errands.
6 And you stop by there, and it seems like it's a
7 little crowded. Well, you could go do your
8 errands, and on the way back, still vote early,
9 and if it's still more crowded than you like, you
10 still have that following Sunday and then another
11 eight days, sorry, seven days after that.

12 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Absolutely.

13 MR. RYAN: So, becoming acquainted with
14 your early voting location and knowing the hours
15 gives the voters maximum flexibility in terms of
16 exercising their right to vote, assuming they
17 prefer an in-person vote as opposed to an
18 absentee vote. So certainly, early voting, we are
19 hoping becomes a much more utilized aspect of the
20 process, and we've built that into our public
21 outreach and the various media messaging that
22 we've been sending out.

23 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: Just a question
24 and a comment for you on that and executive

1 October 6, 2020

2 staff, correct me if I'm wrong. I think also as
3 we had, in the public education committee just
4 discussed, that initially a lot of the messaging
5 was making sure that voters could avail
6 themselves of their absentee balloting options,
7 and we will continue to turn messaging in the
8 coming weeks towards exercising their early
9 voting option. So it seems like we will turn up
10 the volume a little bit on that, to make sure
11 that people know about that as well.

12 MR. RYAN: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: So, as I said,
14 correct me if I'm wrong on that. I think we want
15 -- unfortunately, sometimes, I think these things
16 need to go a little bit sequentially, that people
17 need to remember like step one.

18 MR. RYAN: Right.

19 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: So we'll start
20 to make sure people know all the new things,
21 because we are throwing a lot of new things at
22 voters in this cycle, as we have been, through
23 the past few cycles since last June, that now
24 there are more ways than ever for them to vote,

1 October 6, 2020

2 and so people just need -- we just need to take
3 time to make sure that people understand. And I
4 can see with all these different executive orders
5 and things that have come down, it's easy for
6 people to either be confused or just miss
7 messaging altogether because they're focused on
8 something else. So my understanding is that staff
9 is focused first on absentee balloting and making
10 sure that people, as I said, who want to avail
11 themselves of that have the option to do so and
12 then turning an eye towards making sure that
13 people understand just all what's available to
14 them regarding all the days and hours that they
15 have to exercise their option to vote early.

16 MR. RYAN: And commissioner, to that
17 point, you want to capture people's attention
18 while they want to pay attention, right. So
19 sometimes getting that information, that was
20 discussed as an element of the public education
21 plan. Pushing the information out about early
22 voting too early, perhaps when folks weren't
23 paying attention to it and it's still not
24 starting until October 24th was all part of that

1 October 6, 2020

2 strategic rollout. And so the idea was for the
3 voter and for us, the most important was to get
4 the information out about absentee voting for
5 those voters that wanted to vote, so that they
6 would get their ballots as soon as possible and
7 we would get them back as soon as possible, so
8 that we could deal with that volume. And then
9 next in line is the early voting, which is coming
10 up now in about two-and-a-half weeks, and getting
11 that information out to them. So, you hit the
12 nail on the head, commissioner.

13 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: Yes, and I'm
14 also really hoping -- go ahead, Dawn.

15 MS. SANDOW: And two absentee videos are
16 up on our website which clearly states how you
17 can obtain an absentee ballot. It's a great
18 video. I think every, all the commissioners
19 viewed it. And the second one is how to fill out
20 your absentee ballot. The third one that will be
21 posted shortly is the information notice and that
22 will be sometime today, which everyone has
23 received the last few days, explaining to all the
24 voters basically what that information notice is,

1 October 6, 2020

2 what they can do it at the Fast Pass key fob, the
3 Fast Pass card, and then moving forward, there
4 will be election, early voting, as you said, and
5 election day.

6 MR. RYAN: Right. And Ms. Sandow
7 mentioned, we have the Fast Pass tag that was
8 discussed and approved by the commissioners. I
9 have mine on my keychain. And it has the barcode
10 with your voter serial number so if you bring
11 that with you to the poll site, you place that,
12 we'll still have those mats that were created for
13 the poll pads showing where the barcode needs to
14 be placed so that the reader will read it, and if
15 the voter brings this with them, this little tag,
16 and they go to their table, it will bring the
17 poll pad directly to their voter record and
18 improve the contactless, or to ensure the
19 contactless aspect of voting and also speed the
20 process because the poll workers will not have to
21 look up the individuals' names on the poll pad.
22 Scan and it'll pop right up. Anybody who has gone
23 to the supermarket and wanted their coupons,
24 right, scans this little tag, right, I do it

1 October 6, 2020

2 myself and it works quickly. And we do the same
3 thing at the poll sites. So we're leveraging the
4 technology and as we keep moving forward, we make
5 these improvements and hopefully the voters take
6 advantage of them, and things will go more
7 smoothly.

8 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: And two quick
9 points and I know that we want to move on. One is
10 I will -- actually, just a comment. I will say
11 that the videos that we have produced so far look
12 great, and I think they work really well because
13 they're simple. And I say that to sort of tee up
14 sort of a request to some of our partners,
15 whether it's the government groups and I'm hoping
16 that our electeds as well will also take some of
17 these materials and help us spread the message so
18 that their constituents know what their options
19 are for exercising their vote as well.

20 And if I can just make a request, this
21 also just came up via Twitter, if we can make
22 sure to make the fact that your early voting poll
23 sites are assigned, so you can't just drop into
24 any one necessarily that you'd like if you're

1 October 6, 2020

2 going to go vote in person, maybe just clarifying
3 that language as we continue to push people
4 towards using early voting if they want to do so.

5 MR. RYAN: Certainly. And I think again,
6 just by way of clarification, yes. If you are
7 planning on voting at your early voting location,
8 it is an assigned site within the borough, the
9 same way that your election day site is assigned,
10 that you can't just walk into any election day
11 site in a borough. Early voting works the same
12 way.

13 The one little bit of clarification I
14 would like to make, because there are a lot more
15 participants in absentee balloting, you can drop
16 off your absentee ballot at any one of our early
17 voting locations or our election day locations,
18 and the borough doesn't matter. So, for example,
19 if you live in an outer borough and work in
20 Manhattan and it was convenient for you to drop
21 off your absentee ballot at an early voting
22 location in Manhattan, you can do that and we
23 will make sure that it gets routed to the proper
24 borough and tabulated properly. And we're doing

1 October 6, 2020

2 that for the social distancing aspect of it for
3 all of the reasons we're all aware of, COVID-19
4 and then also for the convenience of the voter,
5 to bring elections to the voter and make it as
6 convenient and as accessible as possible.

7 That is all that I have. There are no
8 issues that I'm aware of for executive session.

9 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: This is
10 Commissioner Zaccone, Mr. Ryan. I have one matter
11 of possible litigation I'd like to discuss in
12 executive session.

13 MR. RYAN: Okay. So is, two motions are
14 in order. One is to set the date for the next
15 meeting, and two is a motion to go into executive
16 session.

17 SECRETARY UMANE: I move we meet next
18 Tuesday at 1:30, Tuesday --

19 PRESIDENT TAYLOR: October 13th.

20 COMMISSIONER CAMILO: Second.

21 MR. RYAN: Any objections? Hearing none,
22 the meeting date will be set for October 13th at
23 1:30 p.m.

24 SECRETARY UMANE: And I move that we go

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

October 6, 2020

into executive session for litigation and possibly employee relations.

COMMISSIONER MICHEL: Second.

MR. RYAN: Are there any objections?

Hearing none, the motion carries. The meeting is adjourned and we are going into executive session. If there is nothing to report from executive session, this meeting will be considered adjourned. If not, I will come down and address the meeting appropriately. Alright. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: Thank you all.

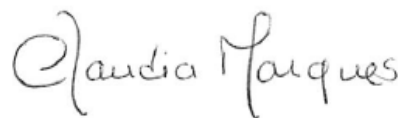
PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Thank you.

(The meeting concluded at 2:42 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE OF ACCURACY

I, Claudia Marques, certify that the foregoing transcript of the Board of Elections in The City of New York on October 6, 2020 was prepared using the required transcription equipment and is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Certified By



Claudia Marques

Date: May 11, 2021

GENEVAWORLDWIDE, INC

256 West 38th Street - 10th Floor

New York, NY 10018