

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

42 Broadway - 6th floor
Commissioners' Hearing Room

New York, NY 10004

March 16, 2021

1:30 - 3:09 p.m.

March 16, 2021

PRESENT:

President Frederic M. Umane

Secretary Miguelina Camilo

Commissioner Jose Araujo

Commissioner Michael Michel

Commissioner Rodney L. Pepe-Souvenir

Commissioner Patricia Anne Taylor

Commissioner Tiffany Townsend

Commissioner John Wm. Zaccone

Commissioner Simon Shamoun

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director

Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director

Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager

Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager

Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners

Steven Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

Hemalee Patel, General Counsel

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2 (The meeting commenced at 1:32 p.m.)

3 MS. DAWN SANDOW: Good afternoon, today
4 is Tuesday, March 16, 2021 and this is the weekly
5 meeting of the Board of Commissioners. My name is
6 Dawn Sandow, I'm the deputy executive director.
7 We will begin with the commissioners' roll call.
8 President Umane?

9 PRESIDENT FREDERIC M. UMANE: Here.

10 MS. SANDOW: Secretary Camilo?

11 SECRETARY MIGUELINA CAMILO: Here.

12 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Araujo?

13 COMMISSIONER JOSE MIGUEL ARAUJO:

14 Present and good afternoon.

15 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Marmorato?

16 COMMISSIONER GINO A. MARMORATO:

17 Present, good afternoon, everyone.

18 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Michel?

19 COMMISSIONER MICHAEL MICHEL: Here.

20 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Pepe-Souvenir?

21 COMMISSIONER RODNEY L. PEPE-SOUVENIR:

22 Present, good afternoon, everyone.

23 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Shamoun will
24 be joining shortly. Commissioner Taylor?

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2 COMMISSIONER PATRICIA ANNE TAYLOR:

3 Hello, I am here.

4 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Townsend?

5 COMMISSIONER TIFFANY TOWNSEND: Good
6 afternoon, present.

7 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Zaccone?

8 COMMISSIONER JOHN WM. ZACCONE: Good
9 afternoon, present.

10 MS. SANDOW: Also joining us today are
11 Pamela Perkins, administrative manager from
12 another location, Georgea Kontzamanis, operations
13 manager, as well as Steve Denkberg, Ken Moltner,
14 counsels to the commissioners. Joining our
15 meeting for the first time, I am pleased to
16 introduce Ms. Hemalee Patel, the new general
17 counsel to the agency. Welcome aboard, Ms. Patel.

18 MS. HEMALEE PATEL: Thank you.

19 MS. SANDOW: We'll begin with today's
20 agenda. There is -- is there a need for executive
21 session for legal or personnel? Yes? We're going
22 to add an executive session.

23 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: For legal.

24 MS. SANDOW: To the agenda.

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2 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: Yes, for legal,
3 please.

4 MS. SANDOW: Okay. Staff also
5 [unintelligible] [00:02:59] he's on the sixth
6 floor. Turning to the agenda, item one, poll site
7 designation report. At our last meeting on
8 Tuesday, March 9, 2021, the commissioners
9 unanimously voted to authorize and empower the
10 borough commissioners to designate the 2021/2022
11 poll sites. I am pleased to report that all
12 boroughs authorized their list of poll sites on
13 Friday, March 12, 2021, within the statutory
14 mandate. The legal team has begun sending out
15 letters and we expect to be completed before the
16 end of the week.

17 Item number two, update on the Queens
18 special election for the 31st Council District.
19 The day has finally arrived, all ballots are in.
20 The cure process has been completed, and the
21 Queens team has begun the process this morning of
22 conducting the rounds. All early voting reports
23 indicate a smooth operation. We expect this
24 process to take around two days. Our goal would

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2 be to certify by the end of the week. Kudos to
3 Queens. There's some Twitter out there saying
4 what a great job. Item number three, update --

5 PRESIDENT UMANE: Just let me interrupt
6 for a second.

7 MS. SANDOW: Sure.

8 PRESIDENT UMANE: Commissioner Shamoun
9 has joined us. I just wanted to indicate that.

10 MS. SANDOW: Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER SIMON SHAMOUN: Thank you,
12 Commissioner Umane, present.

13 MS. SANDOW: Item number three, update
14 on the -- one of the two current Bronx specials
15 for the 11th and 15th Council Districts. Today is
16 day four of early voting in these special
17 elections. So far we have smooth operations. 471
18 voters have voted early as of 12:30 today.

19 I would like to remind the public of the
20 early voting hours. They are today, March 16th,
21 12:00 - 8:00, Wednesday, March 17th, 12:00 to
22 8:00, Thursday, March 18th, 10:00 to 6:00,
23 Friday, March 19th, 7:00 to 3:00, Saturday, March
24 20th, 10:00 to 4:00 and Sunday, March 21st, 10:00

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2 to 4:00. Please note that election day, Tuesday,
3 March 23rd, is 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. You can
4 always find this information, including your poll
5 site view a sample ballot on our website at
6 Vote.NYC or you may call us at 1-866-VOTENYC.

7 [OFF MIC CONVERSATION]

8 MS. SANDOW: Did I, 671 voters so far
9 today, I just want to make sure that I clarified
10 that I said that correctly. Commissioners, that
11 concludes our agenda for today. Shall we set the
12 next meeting and go into executive session?

13 PRESIDENT UMANE: Well, first, does
14 anybody have anything else that they want to
15 discuss before we do that? I would move that we
16 have our next meeting next Tuesday at 1:30, and
17 then that we go into executive session for, I
18 guess litigation and potentially personnel.

19 SECRETARY CAMILO: Second.

20 PRESIDENT UMANE: All in favor? All
21 opposed? All abstentions? I think it carries
22 unanimously.

23 MS. SANDOW: Okay, the next meeting will
24 be March 22nd at 1:30.

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2 COMMISSIONER PEPE-SOUVENIR: March 23rd.

3 MS. SANDOW: Oh, I'm sorry, no, March
4 22nd is a Monday.

5 COMMISSIONER PEPE-SOUVENIR: March 23rd.

6 MS. SANDOW: Oh, I'm sorry, correct,
7 March 23rd.

8 PRESIDENT UMANE: Well, you're both
9 right, March 22nd is a Monday.

10 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: Yes, but we
11 don't meet on Monday.

12 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: March 23rd.

13 MS. SANDOW: Okay.

14 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: We are adjourned?

15 MS. SANDOW: Yes, we are adjourned.

16 [EXECUTIVE SESSION]

17 MS. SANDOW: Good afternoon, everyone.
18 We have nothing to report. The next meeting is
19 Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 1:30 p.m., everyone
20 have a good afternoon. Thank you.

21 (The meeting concluded at 3:09 p.m.)

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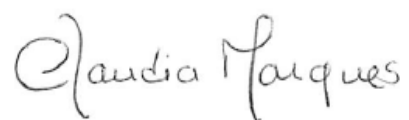
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CERTIFICATE OF ACCURACY

I, Claudia Marques, certify that the foregoing transcript of the Board of Elections in The City of New York on March 16, 2021 was prepared using the required transcription equipment and is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Certified By



Date: October 12, 2021

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