MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

P R E S E N T: Anthony Como, President
James Sampel, Secretary

Commissioners Dent, Graham, O'Connor, Polanco, Soumas, Schacher, Umane, Yennella

George Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Public Relations and Communications
John Ward, Finance Officer
Phil Donahue, Director, Personnel
Philip Mione, Computer Data Analyst, EVS
Steve Ferguson, Director, MIS
Elliot Borack, ACCO
Ed Fraga, Consultant, Gartner
Karen Viggiano, Consultant, Gartner
Margaret Chin-Hong, Consultant, Gartner
Michael Kinara, Consultant, Gartner
Michael Sternlieb, EDO
John O'Grady, Chief, Voting Machine Technician
John Naudus, Sr. Computer Programmer
Mona Huang, Sr. Computer Programmer
Yi Yu, Sr. Computer Programmer
Gladys Fernandez, Technical Writer
Beth Fossella, Coordinator, Voter Registration
Jack Courtney, Temporary Attorney
Steven Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Marjorie Shea, Women's City Club
Adrienne Kivelson, League of Women Voters

Andrea Senteno, Citizen Union
Teresa Hummel
Margie Gersten
Mark Herman

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

Commissioner O'Connor moved to table the minutes of the October 16, 2007, October 23, 2007, October 30, 2007 meetings. President Como seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Deputy Executive Director reported that:

A)   The State Board of Elections transmitted copies of DOJ's motion stating its position to expand Plan B for the February Primary to all county Boards of Elections (a copy is included in the agenda).

B)   Board staff provided the Commissioners with their recommendations/comments to the State Boards' September 5, 2007 Draft rules and regulations for Routine Maintenance and Testing of Voting Systems, Operational Procedures and Standards for Determining Valid Votes for their review and

approval. There is a 45-day comment period.

After discussion, Commissioner Umane moved to table a determination until the next meeting. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

C)   In his draft letter dated November 13, 2007 to OMB Director Mark Page (copy included in agenda) he reports that due to the numerous areas of work that the Board will have to conduct with respect to HAVA this agency could not provide a list of budget reductions that it could make at this time.

President Como moved to authorize the Deputy Executive Director to transmit his letter to OMB as submitted. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

D)   Senior Management was informed that Poll worker Lillian Mustapha was struck and killed by a motorist on her way to work on Election Day. The Deputy Executive Director requested guidance on what to do on behalf of the family.

E)   On November 2, 2007 there were threats of violence were made against specific Board staff members. The Executive Committee was informed and a request for a security guard at the Staten Island Borough Office was authorized.

Secretary Sampel moved to authorize Board staff to retain a security guard for the Staten Island Borough Office during its hours of operation. Commissioner Yennella seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner O'Connor reported on the Election Commissioners Association response to the U.S. Department of Justice's motion for an order regarding New York State's full compliance with HAVA for the September 2008 Primary Election.

Finance Officer John Ward provided the Commissioners with the Comparative Expenditure Report dated November 6, 2007 as well as the Vacancy Report dated November 13, 2007.

The Steve Ferguson, Director, MIS provided a report regarding the reprinting of the poll books for the November 6, 2007 General Election.

Mr. Ferguson provided the Commissioners with a copy of the State Board's proposed Contract relating to reimbursement for HAVA related expenses incurred from the Statewide Voter Registration Database (NYS

Voter II). He stated that the City Board fully complies with the applicable regulations of this contract and request approval of this agreement.

Commissioner Umane moved to authorize Senior Management to utilize all reasonable efforts to get the City Board's fair and true share of these reimbursement monies since the City Board services five (5) counties. Commissioner O'Connor seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The President opened the floor for comments/questions from:

1)   Adrienne Kivelson, League of Women Voters; and

2)   Marjorie Shea, Womens City Club.

3)   Teresa Hummel

President Como moved to convene an Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation matters. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was agreed to unanimously.

The President reported that in the Executive Session the Commissioners took the following actions:

1)   I, Commissioner Polanco move to appoint Anthony Ribustello, an Administrative Associate to serve as Acting Deputy Chief Clerk in the Bronx Office (in the absence of Dawn Sandow), effective September 17, 2007 at an annual salary of $83,514. Mr. Ribustello will continue to serve as Acting Deputy Chief Clerk until the return of Dawn Sandow, at which time Mr. Ribustello will resume his salary and duties as Administrative Associate.

2)   Unanimously approved that the meeting of the Commissioners of Elections scheduled for Tuesday, November 20, 2007 be moved to 11:00 A.M. rather than at 1:30 P.M.

3)   Collected a monetary contribution from each Commissioner for the family of Poll Worker Lillian Mustapha who was killed on Election Day.

President Como moved to adjourn. Commissioner Yennella seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Como announced that the next Commissioners' meeting

is scheduled for Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at 11:00 A.M.