

MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2007
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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

Commissioners Graham, Schacher, Soumas, Umane, Yennella

John Ravitz, Executive Director
George Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Phil Donahue, Director, Personnel
Elliot Borack, ACCO
Diane Rudiano, Chief Clerk, Brooklyn
Maryrose Sattie, Deputy Chief Clerk, Brooklyn
Gladys Fernandez, EVS
Marilyn Reyes, EVS
Antonia Figueroa, EDO's Poll Site Accessibility Unit
Steve Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

Guests: Marjorie Shea, Women's City Club
 Marylou Urban, League of Women Voters
 Alyssa Usui, NYC Voter Assistance Commission
 Mark Herman
 Jerry Koenig

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

President Como announced that the Board of Canvassers would convene to review the results of the April 24, 2007 Special Election for Member of the City Council in the 40th Council District. The President designated Commissioners Schacher, Graham, Secretary Sampel and himself as the Board of Canvassers.

Deputy Chief Clerk Maryrose Sattie presented the Board of Canvassers with the draft Statement and Return of the Certification for the April 24, 2007 Special Election in the 40th City Council District, Brooklyn for their approval.

President Como moved to approve the Statement and Return of the Certification for the April 24, 2007 Special Election in the 40th City Council District, Brooklyn. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Como thanked the Brooklyn staff for their hard work in conducting a successful second special election in the 40th Council District.

President Como then convened the stated meeting of the Commissioners of Elections.

Commissioner Graham moved to approve the minutes of April 11, 2007. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted by a vote of 6 in favor (Secretary Sampel and Commissioners Schacher, Graham, Umane, Yennella, Soumas) and 1 abstention (President Como).

President Como moved to table the minutes of April 24, 2007 until the next meeting. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that:

- 1) Staff from the City Board along with Commissioners O'Connor, Sampel, and Yennella attended the State Board's Annual Conference in Syracuse. It included an update on the State Board's RFP process seeking a new independent testing authority as well as a demonstration of the Statewide Database and the status of the regulations for the maximum number of

voters per machine. The State Board has set the maximum number of voters at 550 for each DRE and 4,000 for each Op-Scan.

- 2) In Syracuse, the staff of the City Board participated in a meeting with the Attorney General's Office, the State Board of Elections, OGS, and Commissioner O'Connor to discuss the proposed State contracts for new voting systems.
- 3) H.R. 811 is moving forward. The City Board recommended at the State Board's Annual Conference that the State Board send a Memorandum to the State Congressional Delegation advising them of the ramifications of passing the Holt Bill as written.
- 4) The City Board will appear before the City Council Committees on Finance and Governmental Operations on the proposed Fiscal Year 2008 Executive Budget on Thursday, May 10, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.
- 5) Senior Management requests approval to post approved minutes of the Commissioners' meetings on the Board's website. Commissioner Umane authorized the Board staff to post the adopted Commissioners' minutes only, beginning with those in January 2007. Commissioner Graham seconded the

motion, which was adopted unanimously.

- 6) The City Board had been unofficially advised that the State Legislature is considering moving the 2007 Primary Election from September 11, 2007 to September 18, 2007.

The Deputy Executive Director provided the Commissioners with a Memorandum from the Board's General Counsel relating to the Calendar for Independent Nominating Petitions along with the Governor's Proclamation calling a Special Election to fill the vacancy in the New York State Assembly for the 65th Assembly District, New York. The General Counsel recommended that the Commissioners convene Hearings on Specifications of Objections on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at 1:30 P.M. Commissioner Umane moved that the Board conduct hearings on Specifications relating to the June 5, 2007 Special Election in the 65th Assembly District on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at 1:30 P.M. President Como seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

In addition, the Deputy Executive Director asked the Commissioners to approve the General Counsel's recommendation to authorize and direct the Board staff to:

- 1) Print Absentee/Military and Special Ballots as of Tuesday, May 15, 2007, containing the names of all Candidates who have been named in Certificates and Petitions filed with the Board; and
- 2) Not to print Standby Ballots and the strips for Voting Machines until the conclusion of the hearings on May 29, 2007 on any challenges relating to Specifications of Objections.

Commissioner Umane moved to adopt the recommendations of the General Counsel and directed the Board to print Absentee/Military and Special Ballots as of Tuesday, May 15, 2007 and not to print Standby Ballots and the strips for Voting Machines until the conclusion of the hearings on May 29, 2007. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Executive Director presented the Commissioners with the Comparative Expenditure Report dated May 8, 2007 and the Vacancy Report dated May 1, 2007 in the absence of the Finance Officer.

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

The President reported that the following actions were taken in the Executive Session:

Pursuant to Section 3-300 of the NYS Election Law the Commissioners' unanimously approved the appointment of Marvin Renderos to the position of Spanish Translator in the EDO Unit to replace Marta Concepcion at the salary of \$37,562, effective immediately.

Secretary Sampel moved to adjourn. President Como seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Como announced that the next Commissioners' meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at 1:30 p.m.