

MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2007
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR EVS CONFERENCE ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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

Commissioners Dent, Graham, O'Connor, Schacher, Umame, Yennella

John Ravitz, Executive Director
George Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel
Phil Donahue, Director, Personnel
John Ward, Finance Officer
Joseph LaRocca, Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
Thomas Sattie, Ballot Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Public Relations and Communications
Jack Courtney, Temporary Attorney
Peter Halprin, Temporary Attorney
William Markle, Law Student Intern
Samantha Kim, Temporary Attorney
Philip Mione, Computer Data Analyst
Gladys Fernandez, Technical Liaison
Marilyn Reyes, Technical Writer

Guests: Marjorie Shea, Womens City Club
 Andrea Senteno, Citizen Union
 Alan Flacks

President Como called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M.

President Como moved to adopt the minutes of July 10, 2007. Commissioner O'Connor seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Como moved to table the minutes of the July 17, 2007 meeting to the next meeting. Commissioner O'Connor seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that

- 1) The letters to Voting System Vendors regarding the potential purchase of handicapped accessible certified voting systems for each of the City's 1,369 poll sites is being sent out today.
- 2) The State Legislature is scheduled to reconvene on Thursday; the Assembly has drafted legislation to amend ERMA to allow all counties to use their existing voting systems with at least one Ballot Marking Device for voters with disabilities. He cited some problems with the Assembly bill and asked the Commissioners to call members of their delegation in both the Assembly

and Senate to urge them to pass some version of this bill.

The General Counsel provided the Commissioners with the following breakdown of General Objections filed by borough after the last night to file General Objections to Designating Petitions for the September 18, 2007 Primary Election which was midnight, Monday, July 23, 2007.

General Objections

Brooklyn	18	(Civil Court District & Party Positions)
Queens	60	(Party Positions)
Manhattan	182	(Civil Court District & Party Positions)

The General Counsel also reported that all five boroughs have Prima Facie matters for the Commissioners review and determination. He recommended that the Commissioners convene hearings on matters relating to designating petitions for the September 18, 2007 Primary on Thursday, August 2, 2007 in accordance with the following schedule:

- 10:00 A.M. Prima Facie Matters in Bronx & Richmond Counties;
- 10:30 A.M. Kings County
 - 1) Prima Facie Matters
 - 2) Specifications of Objections

11:00 A.M. Queens County 1) Prima Facie Matters

2) Specifications of Objections

12 Noon – Stated Meeting of the Commissioners

2:00 P.M. New York County 1) Prima Facie Matters

2) Specifications of Objections

He also asked the Commissioners to hold Friday, August 3, 2007 open for a possible continuation of the hearings.

Commissioner O'Connor moved to adopt the calendar for hearings on Designating Petitions as recommended. President Como seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The General Counsel asked the President and Secretary to appoint an additional Petition and Cover Sheet Review Committee for Designating Petition matters. President Como and Secretary Sampel designated as follows for:

Tuesday, July 24 – President Como & Commissioner O'Connor

Friday, July 27 – Secretary Sampel & Commissioner Yennella

The General Counsel provided the Commissioners with a copy of the decision by Hon. Manuel J. Mendez, Judge of the New York City Civil Court in the matter of Alan Flacks v. The Board of Elections in the City of New York [NYC Civil Court, New York County, Index No. SCH585/2006] and thanked the Law Department for assistance.

Ballot Coordinator Thomas Sattie asked the Commissioners to establish a cut-off date to print absentee ballots for the September Primary.

Commissioner Umane moved to set Friday 3, 2007 as the cut-off to print absentee ballots and Tuesday, August 7, 2007 as the cut-off date if Objections to an OTB petition are filed. President Como seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Finance Officer John Ward provided the Commissioners with the Vacancy Report dated July 24, 2007.

President Como asked that all present observe a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Tukwoon Kim, the Korean Translator from the

EDO Unit who passed away. A moment of silence was observed.

Commissioner O'Connor made the following Committee report following a disciplinary hearing:

Carmen Rosado, the Spanish Translator in the EDO Unit be placed on probation for one year for unauthorized absences and lateness.

Secretary Sampel moved to adopt the Committee's report. The Committee report was adopted by a vote of 7 in favor (President Como, Secretary Sampel, Commissioners Graham, O'Connor, Schacher, Umame, Yennella) and 1 abstention (Commissioner Dent).

Commissioner O'Connor reported that he and Queens Chief Clerk Barbara Connachio were guests at the Korean American Voters' Council's 11th Annual Benefit Banquet. He stated that he and Ms. Connachio were very well received which is why he could not understand why the Board is now being sued by the organization.

Administrative Manager Pamela Perkins reminded the Commissioners that the deadline to file their Conflict of Interest Board

Statements is Friday, August 3, 2007 and she needed their receipts.

The President opened the floor for brief comments from Alan Flacks

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

President Como announced that the next Commissioners' meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 2, 2007 at 12:00 Noon between the Hearings on Designating Petitions.