

MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 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, Soumas, Schacher, Umane

John Ravitz, Executive Director
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel
Phil Donahue, Director, Personnel
John Ward, Finance Officer
Steve Ferguson, Director, MIS
Joseph LaRocca, Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
Thomas Sattie, Ballot Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
Michael Carmicino, Candidate Records Unit
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Public Relations and Communications
Troy Johnson, Chief Clerk, Manhattan
Timothy Gay, Deputy Chief Clerk, Manhattan
Beth Fossella, Coordinator, Voter Registration
Jack Courtney, Temporary Attorney
Peter Halprin, Law Student Intern
William Markle, Law Student Intern
Steven Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners
Charles Webb III, Counsel to the Commissioners

President Como called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

The General Counsel provided the Commissioners with a letter

from Elizabeth Sunshine, a Financial Clerk assigned to the Management Information Systems (MIS) Unit requesting Board approval, pursuant to §2604(e) of the New York City Charter, to serve as Executive Director of the New York State Institute on Disability, Inc., a tax-exempt non-for-profit organization servicing persons with developmental disabilities. He stated that after discussing the matter with Ms. Sunshine, he sees no conflict between her official duties and responsibilities at the Board of Elections and her work as the organization's Executive Director and its receipt of City funds and recommended that the Commissioners grant approval for her to serve as the Executive Director of the New York State Institute on Disability, Inc. and direct him to communicate the same, in writing, on behalf of the Commissioner to Ms. Sunshine and the Conflicts of Interest Board.

Secretary Sampel moved to grant Ms. Sunshine's request to serve as the Executive Director of the New York State Institute on Disability, Inc. and directed the General Counsel to communicate the same, in writing, on behalf of the Commissioner to Ms. Sunshine and the Conflicts of Interest Board. 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 to convene immediately following today's Commissioners meeting. President Como and Secretary Sampel designated Commissioner Soumas & Commissioner Umame.

The General Counsel reported that the bill relating to the Commissioner's per diem increase was transmitted to the Governor on August 3, 2007.

President Como moved to adopt the minutes of July 24, 2007. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Como moved to table the minutes of the August 2, 2007 meeting. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that

- 1) Working groups have been set up to review the NYC

Board's public education and training program, poll site accessibility issues as well as Ballot Marking Devices operations for the September 18, 2007 Primary.

- 2) Letters will go out to candidates giving them the opportunity to hear and make corrections to the phonetic pronunciation of their names for the audio ballot in the required languages [English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese (both Mandarin, and Cantonese)].

The Executive Director provided the Commissioners with a draft of the letter to the State Board of Elections regarding implementation of the Statewide Voter Registration List and compliance with Section 6217.5 of the State Board of Election Rules "Database Regulation".

After discussion, the Commissioners directed Board staff to make revisions to the letter.

Finance Officer John Ward provided the Commissioners with the Vacancy Report dated August 7, 2007.

Commissioner Schacher moved to grant a 30-day sick leave extension for Ameriar Feliciano, a Clerk in the Brooklyn Office. President Como seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

A. Brinmore Britton, Alternate Delegate to the Judicial Convention, Brooklyn appeared before the Commissioners to ask for consideration. Mr. Britton was removed for a cover sheet defect for the September 18, 2007 Primary Election. President Como explained the actions taken by the Board's staff and the Commissioners of Elections.

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

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 14, 2007 at 1:30 P.M.