

MEETING OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS  
HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2008  
AT 1:30 P.M.  
42 BROADWAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR HEARING ROOM  
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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P R E S E N T:           President James Sampel  
                              Secretary Frederic Umare

Commissioners Araujo, Dent, Graham, Polanco, Schacher, Soumas,  
Stupp, Yennella

Marcus Cederqvist, Executive Director  
George Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director  
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager  
Valerie Vasquez, Director, Communications  
Delores Delayo, Director, Personnel  
John Owens Jr., Director, Campaign Finance Reporting  
John Ward, Finance Officer  
Joseph LaRocca, Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit  
Thomas Sattie, Ballot Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit  
Steve Ferguson, Director, MIS  
Barbara Conacchio, Chief Clerk, Queens  
Katherine James, Deputy Chief Clerk, Queens  
Rosanna Rahmouni, Coordinator, Election Day Operations  
Beth Fossella, Coordinator, Voter Registration  
Randi Rosen, Temporary Attorney  
Jack Courtney, Temporary Attorney  
Steve Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners  
Charles Webb III, Counsel to the Commissioners  
Nicholas Zimmitti, Pres., CWA 1183

GUEST:     Marjorie Shea, Women's City Club  
              Mary Lou Urban, League of Women Voters  
              Isreal Rodriguez, NYC Council  
              Mark Herman  
              Weyman Carey

President Sampel called the meeting to order at 1:41 P.M.

President Umane announced that the Commissioners would conduct a Hearing on Bronx Specifications of Objections BX-02 & BX-03 prior to the regular Board meeting and advised each Candidate/Objector and/or representatives of the procedures to be followed.

Commissioner Soumas called the parties in the matter of Specification of Objection BX'02 and BX'03 relating to the Rules and Regulations and Minutes of the Meeting of the Bronx County Democratic Committee. Jerry Goldfeder appeared on behalf of the Bronx Democratic County Committee. Stanley Schlein appeared on behalf of the objectors. After testimonies and discussion, Commissioner Graham moved to defer consideration until after the Executive Session. President Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The President moved to table the minutes of the October 3, 2008, October 7, 2008, and October 14, 2008 meetings. Secretary Umane

seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Coordinator of Election Day Operations provided the Commissioners with the Amended Poll Worker's Election Exception Report for Queens. The Deputy Chief Clerk for Queens explained that she reviewed and agreed with the changes therein. Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the Amended Poll Worker's Election Exception Report for Queens County as submitted. Commissioner Stupp seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Coordinator of Election Day Operations provided the Commissioners with revisions to the Amended Poll Worker's Election Exception Report for Richmond County and asked for their approval. After discussion, President Sampel moved to adopt the Revised Amended Exception Report for Richmond County. Secretary Umame seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that:

- A) All Boroughs, except Brooklyn, have completed BMD testing.

- B) A report has been issued by the Office of the New York State Comptroller regarding their statewide audit of the readiness of Board of Elections for Election Day 2008 (included in the agenda). He noted that the City Board was singled out for praise in the report for its detailed process for setting up voting machines and for its preventative maintenance and repair log and detail of completed repairs.
- C) The Board has received additional voter registration forms since the cut-off date of October 15, 2008. He provided the Commissioners with updated totals of voter registrations received and stated that over 200,000 voter registration forms were received by the Board between the dates of October 1, 2008 – October 15, 2008.

The Finance Officer provided the Commissioners with a copy of the Comparative Expenditure Report dated October 21, 2008.

The Director of EVS asked the Commissioners to approve the revised BMD Canvass Procedures submitted by John Naudus at last week's

meeting. Secretary Umane moved to adopt the revised BMD Canvass Procedures as submitted. President Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Secretary Umane presented the Executive Committee's (President Sampel and Secretary Umane) report:

Based on the report of the Executive Director with regard to the number of voter registration applications filed, the Executive Committee determined that emergency, mandatory overtime go into effect on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 through Monday, November 3, 2008 to complete necessary work in time for the General Election.

President Sampel moved to ratify the Committee's report. The Executive Committee report was ratified unanimously.

The President of CWA 1183, Nicholas Zimmitti provided the Commissioners with productivity studies for their review. He stated that imposing this mandatory overtime schedule, asking employees to work more than an agreed-upon schedule, does not increase production in any circumstance.

In response to a request by Commissioner Graham, the Executive Director advised that Nicholas Squicciarini would speak with the Building Management Company regarding placing a sign at 1780 Grand Concourse to signify the location of the Bronx Board of Elections' Office.

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

The Commissioners reconvened an in open public session.

Commissioner Soumas moved to sustain Bronx Specifications of Objections BX'02 & BX'03. Secretary Umane seconded the motion.

In a roll call vote:

Five Commissioners voted "yes" (Secretary Umane, Commissioners Dent, Schacher, Soumas, and Yennella);

Four Commissioners voted "no" (President Sampel, Commissioners Araujo, Graham, and Stupp); and

Commissioner Polanco abstained.

The motion was not adopted.

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

The Board unanimously adopted the Commissioners' Committee Report to grant Cynthia Belton, an Administrative Associate in the Manhattan Office, a 30 days sick leave advance.

A press conference will be held on Tuesday, October 28, 2008 at 12:30 P.M. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room to inform the public what to expect on Election Day and what options voters will have if they are not on the voter registration lists.

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

The next Commissioner's meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 28, 2008