

MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2013
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Frederic M. Umame
Secretary Gregory C. Soumas

Commissioners Araujo, Barrera, Dent, Guastella, Michel, Shamoun, Sipp

Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
John Ward, Finance Officer
Dorothy Delayo, Director, Personnel
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications and Public Affairs
Vincent Parascandolo, Associate Staff Analyst, MIS
Antonio Ortiz, Senior Computer Programmer, MIS
Pablo Martinez, Senior Systems Analyst, MIS
Joseph DeBlasi, Consultant, MIS
Giacomo Kmet, Temporary Contract Attorney, OGC
Anibal Luque, Temporary Contract Attorney, OGC
Kenneth M. Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Kate Doran, LWV
A.B. Britton, KLC GOP USA
Kevin Ramnaraine, NYC CFB
John D. Smith
Will Colegrove, NYCC
David Seitzer
J. M.
A. A., Citizens Union
B. Bergin

President Umane called the meeting to order at 1:34 P.M.

President Umane stated that Commissioner Barrera will be late and tabled the approval of the March 12, 2013 and March 19, 2013 minutes until she is present.

Mr. Parascandolo presented an update on the New York City Council Redistricting Project. Mr. Parascandolo, Mr. Ortiz and Mr. Martinez are the MIS technical leads overseeing this project. Mr. Parascandolo stated that the Board received the City Council lines that were proposed by the NYC Redistricting Commission in mid-February 2013. Since the Board received those lines late, staff began the reapportionment process under the assumption that these lines would be approved by the City Council. It was the only way the Board would be able to meet the dates to print all the necessary materials for the next petitioning cycle. To expedite the process, the Board used the same basic approach as they did for the Congressional lines last year. Using Maptitude software, MIS staff imported the proposed City Council lines and identified all the current Election Districts (EDs) that were split and would need to be addressed. A bi-partisan team from each Borough Office worked with MIS staff on this

project. MIS then met with the NYC Department of City Planning to coordinate and advise them of the Board's accelerated schedule. Mr. Parascandolo stated that the initial borough sessions were completed last Tuesday, March 19, 2013. Every Assembly District (AD) was examined and the following actions were taken:

- All EDs that were split by the proposed City Council lines were addressed;
- Whenever possible, staff attempted to balance EDs using the guidelines set forth by the Commissioners last year;
- The changing of voters' poll sites were minimized as much as possible;
- All EDs with zero (0) eligible voters were designated into a series starting with the number 200;

Preliminary maps and data reflecting the changes were sent to the borough Commissioners, Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Clerk for their review as required. Mr. Parascandolo stated that it is important that these reviews are approved as soon as possible. The planned target date to complete this phase is by Friday, March 29, 2013. After Commissioners' approval, the proposed Reapportionment will be sent to the U.S. Department of

Justice (DOJ) to be reviewed. MIS staff will continue their process in anticipation of DOJ approval which includes the following tasks:

- Updating and processing the City Planning files;
- Updating the voter registration file by re-syncing the AVID database;
- Updating the S-Elect files which include poll site and poll worker updates;
- Creating and printing all of the new maps, political calendars, Street Finders, Poll Books, and other Board publications.

Mr. Parascandolo stated that the schedule to publish all of the new materials for the upcoming petition cycle would be May 15, 2013 as long as the planned target dates are met. President Umame thanked the MIS and Borough Office staff for all of their hard work on the City Council Redistricting project. He reminded staff that the Poll Site Locator App needs to be updated as well ensuring that voters have as much information as possible.

Mr. Ward reported on the Vacancy Report dated March 26, 2013. A copy of the report is in the agenda.

President Umane noted that Commissioner Barrera and Secretary Soumas joined the meeting.

Ms. Perkins reported that Executive Management received an invitation from The Election Center to speak at “The Future of Voter Registration and Elections” workshop in Minneapolis, MN which is held from April 24, 2013 through April 28, 2013. A copy of the invitation is in the agenda. Ms. Sandow and Ms. Perkins were asked to speak on the topic “Preparing for Natural Disasters in the Future: How New York City Handled Hurricane Sandy and What They Learned” with a Q&A session on April 24, 2013 from 11:15 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. Ms. Perkins stated that they would return to the Board on either April 25th or April 26th. She requested authorization from the Commissioners to permit Executive Management to attend this workshop. President Umane inquired about costs. Ms. Perkins stated that registration fees would be covered by The Election Center; travel, lodging and meals would not be covered. Commissioner Barrera stated that it is phenomenal that The Election Center wants the Board’s input at this national stage. Commissioner Barrera moved to authorize Ms. Sandow and Ms. Perkins to attend The Election Center’s workshop in Minneapolis, MN. Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion. Before a

full vote of the Commissioners, President Umane inquired if there were any new City guidelines concerning what staff can attend and what the City can pay for because he does not want the Board to violate any guidelines. Mr. Ward and Mr. Savino stated that they were not aware of any new City guidelines. Commissioner Michel recommended authorizing Executive Management to attend the workshop provided that it does not violate any City guidelines as an amendment to the motion. Commissioner Barrera moved to authorize Ms. Sandow and Ms. Perkins to attend the “The Future of Voter Registration and Elections” workshop in Minneapolis, MN provided that it does not violate any City guidelines. Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion, with Secretary Soumas opposing. The motion was adopted. President Umane asked Mr. Savino to research City guidelines concerning travel, lodging and meals on this matter.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the March 12, 2013 and March 19, 2013 minutes. President Umane seconded the motion, with Commissioners Guastella and Barrera abstaining on the March 19, 2013 minutes because they were not present at that meeting. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Savino requested to discuss an investigation matter in Executive Session.

Mr. Savino noted that he will start mailing the Board's Legislative Proposal Package - Part 2 to elected officials which was previously sent via email to all Commissioners.

President Umare moved to convene an Executive Session to discuss personnel and investigation matters which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed and President Umare reported on the actions taken in Executive Session:

- I. The Commissioners unanimously granted 210 hours from the Sick Leave Bank to John Wolf, a Project Coordinator in the Executive Office;
- II. The Commissioners unanimously advanced 66 hours of sick leave hours to Rose Ham, a Korean Translator in the Executive Office, and authorized the hiring of a temporary Republican Korean Translator to substitute Ms. Ham.

President Umane moved to adjourn the meeting which was unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 1:30 P.M.