

MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 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 Jose Araujo, Naomi Barrera, Julie Dent, Michael Michel,
Michael Rendino, Simon Shamoun, J.P. Sipp

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications & Public Affairs
John Ward, Finance Officer
Troy Johnson, Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
Debra Leible, Coordinator, Election Day Operations
Giacomo Kmet, Contract Attorney, Office of the General Counsel
Anibal Luque, Contract Attorney, Office of the General Counsel
Alan Quigley, Law Student Intern, Office of the General Counsel
Matthew Bobrow, Law Student Intern, Office of the General Counsel
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: NYC Council Member Gale A. Brewer
 Anna-Maria Thomas
 Monica Bartley, CIDNY
 John D. Smith
 A.B. Britton, KLC GOP USA
 Rev. Joan Thomas
 Samuel Clark
 B. Kearney, DOI
 May Saimsky, CFB

Katharine Loving, CFB
Kate Doran, LWV
Andrew Brush
J. Melendez, NY Daily News
David Seitzer, NYC Council

President Umame called the meeting to order at 1:36 P.M.

President Umame announced that NYC Council Member Gale Brewer is in attendance and welcomed her to speak.

Council Member Brewer congratulated Michael Ryan, the newly appointed Executive Director. She stated he is of high quality and the New York City Council is very pleased. Council Member Brewer stated that the Board is working very hard on the upcoming elections and shared that good government groups are concerned about the lever voting machines. Council Member Brewer noted that there has been an ongoing issue concerning properties in her District which are owned by the Chief Clerk of the Brooklyn Office.

On behalf of the Commissioners, President Umane welcomed Michael Ryan. He noted that Mr. Ryan served as Board Commissioner in the past.

Mr. Ryan announced that his official start date at the Board is August 26, 2013, but he has started to get involved in Board matters. He stated that he is excited to be back at the Board and thanked the Commissioners for their tremendous support throughout the selection process. Mr. Ryan thanked Council Member Brewer for her time meeting with him and for her effort over the years working closely with the Board. He welcomed the good government groups to exchange contact information with him after the meeting.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the minutes of the July 30, 2013 and July 31, 2013 meetings. Commissioner Barrera seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Araujo requested to discuss a Queens personnel matter in Executive Session.

Mr. Johnson presented a CRU Enrollment Issue and Prima Facie matter. The issue involves New York County candidate “Brain” A. Jordan whose name appears to be misspelled on his petition. He recalled that the Commissioners postponed this matter for one (1) week so that staff could send the candidate a notice advising him about the typographical error on his petition and that he has an opportunity to appear. Mr. Johnson reported that a voter registration card for Brian A. Jordan exists. A letter was sent to the candidate at his correct address. There were no appearances by the candidate and/or a representative. President Umame moved to adopt the CRU Enrollment Issue Report and Prima Facie Report. Commissioner Sipp seconded the motion. Secretary Soumas opposed. The motion was adopted. The candidate will not appear on the ballot.

Ms. Leible requested approval to use the Smaller Party Voting Procedures for the Working Family Party Primary in the 34th Council District on September 10, 2013. Copies of her memorandum were distributed to the Commissioners. Smaller Party Primaries which cannot be conducted on the lever voting machine shall be conducted by the Smaller Party Procedures. These procedures exist to assist in preserving the secrecy of the voter’s ballot. The ballots will be canvassed with other ballots in the

sub-division and results will not be reported at the poll site by Election District. The Coordinators of these poll sites will be given instructions on these procedures. President Umame moved to adopt the Smaller Party Voting Procedures for the Working Family Party Primary in the 34th Council District on September 10, 2013. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Ms. Leible requested approval of a draft letter addressed to citywide County Chairs and District Leaders concerning a 2013 Primary Election update. The letter would be signed by the Commissioners. Secretary Soumas stated that the draft was an outline and does not approve to send it to New York County Democrats. There was a consensus among the Commissioners for the draft to be revised into the form of a letter.

Mr. Ward presented the Vacancy Report dated August 13, 2013. A copy of the report is in the agenda.

Commissioner Rendino requested to discuss a Bronx personnel matter in Executive Session.

President Umane moved to convene an Executive Session for purposes of personnel and litigation. Commissioner Dent seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed and President Umane reported the following action taken in Executive Session:

- I. Based on a Disciplinary Hearing, the Commissioners determined that Queens Office employees Richard Guzman, an Administrative Associate, will be demoted to the title of Administrative Assistant, and Kenneth Coughlin, an Administrative Assistant, will be promoted to the title of Administrative Associate, effective immediately.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adjourn the meeting. President Umane seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 1:30 P.M.