

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2017
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Maria R. Guastella
 Secretary Frederic M. Umane

Commissioners Jose Araujo, John Flateau, Lisa Grey, Michael Michel,
Michael Rendino, Alan Schulkin, Simon Shamoun, Rosanna Vargas

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Nina M. Crispino, Director, Personnel
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications & Public Affairs
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Kate Doran, LWVNYC
 Katharine Loving, NYC CFB
 Amanda Melillo, NYC CFB

President Guastella called the meeting to order at 1:51 P.M.

Commissioner Schulkin moved to adopt the minutes for the
December 13, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Vargas seconded the motion,
with President Guastella abstaining. The motion was adopted.

Pursuant to the New York State Election Law, Section 3-212 (1), President Guastella announced that the Commissioners will designate the Board Officers for the Year 2017. Commissioner Rendino moved to designate Secretary Umane to serve as President for 2017. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Commissioner Flateau moved to designate Commissioner Vargas to serve as Secretary for 2017. Commissioner Schulkin seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan noted that the Commissioners' Standing Committees for 2017 have to be designated at a future meeting. Copies of the Standing Committees list were circulated to the Commissioners. Commissioner Araujo requested for the 2016 Commissioners' Standing Committees list be emailed to the Commissioners for review.

Mr. Ryan reported that the Board received a Proclamation from the Mayor's Office for a Special Election to be conducted on February 14, 2017 for the 9th Councilmanic District in New York County having resulted from the resignation of Council Member Inez E. Dickens.

Mr. Richman presented the Draft Independent Nominating Petition Rules for 2017 Elections. Copies of the draft were previously circulated to the Commissioners for review. Mr. Richman reported that there was one (1) change to Rule H-12 and summarized the change. For municipal election years, the Borough Committee shall serve as the appropriate Committee relating to citywide public offices. President Umame moved to adopt the Independent Nominating Petition Rules for 2017 Elections as submitted. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Araujo requested to discuss the general overview of the 2017 Primary Election and possible Run-off Election at the next Commissioners' Meeting. It was noted that the SHOUP voting machines might be needed as there will be insufficient time to test the electronic machines in between a Primary and Run-off Election. Commissioner Araujo requested for potential options for the Board. Mr. Ryan noted that this item will be added to the next Commissioners' Agenda.

Mr. Richman presented the Draft Calendar for Hearings on Matters relating to the February 14, 2107 Special Election. Copies of the Draft Calendar were circulated to the Commissioners for review. Mr. Richman

recommended Tuesday, January 31, 2017 at 2:00 P.M. President Umame moved to adopt the Calendar for Hearings on Matters relating to the February 14, 2107 Special Election as submitted. Commissioner Schulkin seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Richman reported on the preparation and distribution of military and absentee ballots for the February 14, 2017 Special Election. He noted that there is an incongruity between the New York State Election Law and City Charter, and recommended preparing and distributing military and absentee ballots as soon as possible based on the petition filing on its face. There is a 450 signature requirement. The last day to file independent nominating petitions is January 17, 2017 and the first candidate to submit will be in the first position on the ballot. Commissioner Flateau moved to authorize staff to prepare and distribute Military and Absentee Ballots for the February 14, 2017 as recommended. President Umame seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Richman requested for an appointment of a Cover Sheet Review Committee for Friday, January 6, 2017 and Wednesday, January 11, 2017 or Thursday, January 12, 2017, if necessary. President Umame and Commissioner Schulkin volunteered to serve as the Cover Sheet Review

Committee for Friday, January 6, 2017 at 4:00 P.M. via video conference. Commissioner Araujo and Commissioner Michel volunteered to serve as the Committee for Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 4:00 P.M. via video conference. The Commissioners requested for any documents for review to be emailed or faxed to them in advance of the meeting. Mr. Richman reported that public notice will be posted on the Board's website.

Commissioner Flateau requested to address the New York State reapportionment and voter registration at the next Commissioners' Meeting. Mr. Ryan noted that the item will be placed on the agenda.

President Umame noted that the Commissioners will not be meeting next week due to the 2017 Winter Election Commissioners' Association (ECA) Conference in Albany, NY.

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

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed and Mr. Ryan reported the following actions taken in Executive Session:

- I. Saman Mahmood, an Administrative Assistant in the General Office, will be moved to the title of Administrative Associate. The annual salary will be determined based on her years of service with the agency;
- II. The Commissioners granted a advance of 224 discretionary hours to Mary Lee John, an Administrative Assistant in the Brooklyn Office. Ms. John's agency start date is September 2, 2001;
- III. The Commissioners granted an advance of 420 hours for Ellen Giwa, an Administrative Assistant in the General Office, retroactive to December 20, 2016. Ms. Giwa's agency's start date is September 8, 2008;
- IV. The Commissioners granted an advance of 280 discretionary hours for Charlette Jordan, a Clerk in the Manhattan Office. Ms. Jordan's agency's start date is October 1, 2000.

President Umane moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on January 17, 2017 at 1:30 P.M.