

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Frederic M. Umame
 Secretary Rosanna Vargas

Commissioners Jose Araujo, John Flateau, Lisa Grey, Maria R. Guastella
Michael Michel, Michael Rendino, Alan Schulkin, Simon Shamoun

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
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: Bobby Cuza, NY1
 Katharine Loving, NYC CFB
 Kate Doran, LWVNYC
 Robert Morgan
 Amanda Melillo, NYC CFB
 Cathy Gray, LWVNYC
 Brigid Bergin, WNYC
 Sarina Trangle, City & State
 Alan Flacks, Member of NY County Democratic Committee

President Umame called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M.

Commissioner Schulkin moved to adopt the minutes for the January 3, 2017 meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

President Umane reported that an Executive Session will be added to the agenda concerning a personnel matter.

Mr. Ryan reported on the Election Center Conference which was held from January 4, 2017 through January 6, 2017 in Washington, D.C. Mr. Ryan and Ms. Sandow met with other large jurisdictions such as Los Angeles County and Missouri to compare Election Day Operations notes. They also met with the U.S. Post Master General who made a commitment to work with all jurisdictions so that the needs of the Board are processed accordingly concerning the Annual Voter Information Notices and absentee ballots. There was discussion on national concerns about the previous General Election as well as an initial discussion concerning cyber security and how much the U.S. government should be involved in the election process. It was noted that the City Board did not speak on that issue. Mr. Ryan reported that a PowerPoint presentation will be posted on Election Center's website and will be shared with the Commissioners for

review. Executive Management will follow up with the U.S. Post Master General at a later date and will report back to the Commissioners.

Mr. Ryan reported on the Winter 2017 New York State Election Commissioners' Association (ECA) Conference which was held from January 9, 2017 through January 12, 2017 in Albany, NY. Several City Board Commissioners and Managers attended the ECA Conference. The Legislative Agenda was presented and there were no bipartisan issues. Mr. Naudus and Mr. Thompson assisted Mr. Ryan with the City Board's presentation on the Election Night Reporting (ENR) process. The City Board received a lot of feedback from other boards of elections administrators on the ENR process. Mr. Ryan noted that the City Board is a national leader uploading unofficial election results on Election Night by 10:30 P.M.

Mr. Ryan noted that Commissioner Araujo requested for potential options for the Board concerning the 2017 Primary Election and possible Run-off Election at the previous meeting. The SHOUP voting machines might be needed as there will be insufficient time to test the electronic voting machines in between a Primary and Run-off Election. A draft outline of potential options was shared with the Borough Office Chief Clerks

and Deputy Chief Clerks for their review. Mr. Ryan recommended collecting feedback from all Borough Chiefs before a full presentation is made. This item will be placed on the Commissioners' Agenda at a future meeting.

Mr. Richman requested for an appointment of a Cover Sheet Review Committee Meeting for either tomorrow Wednesday, January 18, 2017 or Thursday, January 19, 2017. President Umane and Commissioner Schulkin volunteered to serve as the Cover Sheet Review Committee on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. Mr. Richman reported that public notice will be posted on the Board's website.

Commissioner Araujo requested for staff to send a sample of the ballot layout for the February 14, 2017 Special Election to the Commissioners' Ballot Committee for their review.

President Umane inquired if a Commissioners' Committee has deemed an independent body name as confusing, if it is then ultimately decided by the full Board. He noted that there was an issue with the "New Dawn for Harlem" campaign. The contact person received a letter from the Board to cure the name which exceeded fifteen (15) characters as

well as to change the name as it created potential confusion with the “Harold4Harlem” campaign. President Umane requested for the full Board to consider this item.

President Umane recognized Robert Morgan, a representative of the “New Dawn for Harlem” campaign for candidate Dawn Simmons. Mr. Morgan reported that the independent body name has been changed to “NewDawnHarlem” and requested to leave ‘Harlem’ as it is the district the candidate is running in and does not believe it creates confusion. President Umane believed that the two (2) independent body names “NewDawnHarlem” and “Harold4Harlem” are not substantially similar as to cause potential confusion. President Umane moved for the full Board to accept “NewDawnHarlem” as the independent body name for candidate Dawn Simmons. Commissioner Grey seconded the motion, with Commissioner Araujo opposing. The motion was adopted. Commissioner Araujo noted he opposed because he served on the Commissioners’ Committee who made the initial recommendation.

President Umane recognized Katherine Loving, a representative of the New York City Campaign Finance Board, who requested for a voter registration calendar for the February 14, 2017 Special Election.

President Umane moved for the Manhattan Borough Office to open from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. to accept voter registrations on the last day to file on Saturday, February 4, 2017 utilizing a skeleton crew of four (4) employees. Commissioner Schulkin seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Public notice will be posted on the Board's website.

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

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed.

Mr. Ryan reported that the Commissioners' Standing Committees for 2017 have been designated. The information follows:

- **Executive** – President Umane & Secretary Vargas
- **Budget & Finance** – Commissioners Flateau, Rendino, Umane, Vargas
- **Communications, Voter Registration & Outreach** – Commissioners Flateau, Grey, Guastella, Rendino
- **Management Information Systems and Services** – Commissioners Shamoun and Vargas

- **Legislative Affairs** – Commissioners Flateau, Grey, Schulkin, Shamoun
- **Personnel/Investigations** – Commissioners Araujo, Flateau, Grey, Guastella, Michel, Rendino, Shamoun, Vargas
- **Ballot Layout** – Commissioners Araujo, Grey, Guastella, Michel

President Umame presented the Commissioners' Finance Committee Report to the full Board for their information and consideration. The proposals follow:

- **Shredability** – Contract for shredding services for Board documents and ballots. The contract term is 12/1/2014 through 11/30/2019 which is administered through NYSID and as such is a preferred vendor. The original contract was funded for \$100,000 and to date the Board has used \$80,000 of the funding for this contract. Since there are 3 years remaining on the contract's term, it is recommended to increase the contract of \$250,000 which should meet the needs of the contract for the remaining term. It was noted that Shredability employs the disabled. President Umame recommended for the full Board to adopt the Commissioners' Finance Committee Report. The

Finance Committee's Report was unanimously adopted by the full Board as recommended.

- **ES&S Maintenance Agreement** – Contract for the technicians, service, supplies parts and maintenance for the scanners, BMD, and BOD machines. The contract term is 7/1/2014 through 12/31/2016. The Commissioners' Finance Committee recommends extending this contract to 1/31/2019 to correspond with the expiration of the current State contract with ES&S, and to increase the current funding for \$15,024,389.59. Procurement has already initiated the additional review with OMB due to the projected cost in excess of \$10,000,000. This contract will match the State Board's contract. The Finance Committee's Report was unanimously adopted by the full Board as recommended.
- **After Hours Car Service contracts** – The current contracts have expired. In the past, there have been many delays with these companies resulting in additional overtime costs, and the Committee has asked staff research other companies and various alternatives such as online car service companies (e.g. Uber) and NYC T&LC – Yellow Taxi. The Commissioners' Finance Committee recommended exercising the two (2) year

renewal clauses contained in each contract as it is required by the Union to have car service for employees who work after hours. The company for each borough and renewal amounts are as follows:

- **General Office** – First Class Car and Limo - \$763,295
- **Brooklyn** – First Class Car and Limo - \$97,878
- **Bronx** – New Elegante Car Service - \$15,000
- **Queens** – Concord Limousine LLC - \$60,000
- **Manhattan** – Executive Charge Inc. - \$100,000
- **Staten Island** – There is no car service contract.

The Finance Committee's Report was unanimously adopted by the full Board as recommended.

- **RFID Equipment** – Contract to purchase the necessary hand held scanners and software from CDW-G to allow full implementation of an inventory and control system. The amount is \$235,188.03. The purchase will be bundled with a purchase from Derive in the sum of approximately \$176,000 for hardware and software for the Tablet Unit. It is being bundled to allow the Board to make use of the DCAS equipment contract with CDW-G which has a minimum purchase floor of

\$350,000. The Finance Committee's Report was unanimously adopted by the full Board as recommended.

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 24, 2017 at 1:30 P.M.