

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017 AT 1:30 P.M.  
42 BROADWAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM  
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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PRESENT: President Frederic M. Umane

Commissioners Jose Araujo, John Flateau, Maria R. Guastella, Alan Schulkin, Simon Shamoun, Robert Siano, John Wm. Zaccone

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director  
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director  
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager  
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager  
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel  
Steven Guglielmi, Acting 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  
Wendy Byrne, LWVNYC  
Katharine Loving, NYC Campaign Finance Board

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President Umane called the meeting to order at 1:42 P.M.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the minutes for the December 12, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion, with Commissioners Flateau and Umane abstaining. The motion was adopted.

Commissioners Guastella and Flateau requested for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Mr. Ryan provided an update on the New York City Council Committee on Governmental Operations Oversight Hearing concerning the 2017 Election which was held on December 13, 2017. The Board's Testimony was previously distributed to the Commissioners. Mr. Ryan reported that the Board was not given a request to report on any specific items. There was a Q&A Session with Chairman Kallos in which twelve (12) items were addressed from the 2013 NYC Department of Investigation Report. Chairman Kallos graded the Board a 10.5 out of 12 and was pleased to report on the progress the Board has made regarding various items. Council Member Treyger spoke about the NYC Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) Russian and Haitian Creole Translators who worked on Election Day. His main concern was the placement of these translators at the poll sites. Mr. Ryan reported that he re-stated the Board's position which was made at a previous Commissioners' Meeting during MOIA's presentation on their Translators. He extended an invitation to Council Member Treyger for a follow-up conversation which would allow more time to plan and integrate his concerns into the process for the future. Mr. Ryan reported that the New York State Board testified first and

discussed their concerns of long lines for the 2020 Presidential Election. Mr. Ryan reported that the NYC Campaign Finance Board (CFB) testified before the Board which was a long discussion, and noted that it did not pertain to the Board. Chairman Kallos took issue with the CFB who purportedly used email addresses and telephone numbers from specific campaign donor lists for voter outreach, and raised concerns about CFB's neutrality as a non-partisan agency. Commissioner Zaccone raised concerns about this matter as the Board may be working with the CFB in the future due to Intro. 508-A, a local law to allow voters to submit or update their voter registration information online without DMV identification. Commissioner Flateau inquired if there were any updates on Intro. 508. Mr. Ryan reported that he had a preliminary discussion with CFB last week about Intro. 508-A and they are in the very early stages of their analysis of the requirements moving forward. Mr. Ryan noted that there are concerns with respect to electronically affixing signatures onto voter registration forms from a computer database which would then be printed and delivered for the Board to process. Mr. Ryan reported that copies of the State Board's opinion regarding Intro. 508-A were distributed to the Commissioners last week. He noted that some Commissioners were not present to review it and requested to discuss this item at the next meeting.

There was a consensus among the Commissioners to table this item until the next meeting.

President Umame recognized Amanda Melillo, the Director of Public Affairs for the NYC Campaign Finance Board, who spoke about Chairman Kallos' concerns discussed at the City Council Hearing last week. Ms. Melillo clarified that the CFB is a non-partisan agency and did not target specific Party voters as Chairman Kallos' suggested. She reported that the CFB contacted voters to engage them to go to the polls using the voter information lists they have collected at their community outreach events as well as from the NYC VOTES Contributes credit card list which is integrated with CFB's software. President Umame requested for a list of CFB's community outreach events. Ms. Melillo reported that she can provide that list which can also be found in the CFB's Annual Report. Mr. Ryan reported that after the City Council Hearing, the CFB held a post-election year end meeting which was fully attended by concerned citizens. He noted that the Board received positive comments and praise about their voting process, poll worker experiences, and the easy navigation of the Board's website. Ms. Mellilo reported that the CFB sent surveys to voters concerning their voting experience and they received many positive reviews.

Commissioner Flateau inquired about the number of voters who are eligible to vote, but are not registered yet. Ms. Melillo reported that there are approximately 800,000 voting age citizens in NYC according to the U.S. Census.

President Umame reported that the Commissioners will elect the new President and Secretary for 2018 at the next meeting.

Commissioner Zaccone moved to convene an Executive Session for personnel and litigation matters. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

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

- I. The Commissioners granted 90 hours Advance of Time to Shontia Vaughn, an Administrative Associate in the General Office, retroactive to November 29, 2017. Ms. Vaughn's agency start date is January 26, 1992;
- II. In a vote of 7 in favor (Araujo, Guastella, Schulkin, Shamoun, Siano, Umame, Zaccone) and 1 abstention (Flateau),

Don Bosco was appointed Acting Chief Clerk of the Staten Island Office, which will remain in effect for the duration of Sheila Del Giorno's medical leave.

Commissioner Zaccone moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 1:30 P.M.