

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Rosanna Vargas
 Secretary John Wm. Zaccone

Commissioners Jose Araujo, Maria R. Guastella, Michael Michel, Alan Schulkin, Simon Shamoun, Robert Siano, Frederic M. Umame

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

GUEST: Wendy Byrne, LWVNYC
 Kate Doran, LWVNYC
 Alan Flacks, Member of NY County Democratic Committee

President Vargas called the meeting to order at 1:37 P.M.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the minutes for the March 20, 2018 meeting. President Vargas seconded the motion, with Commissioner Umame abstaining. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Ryan and Ms. Leible presented a proposal on Information Clerk Training. Executive Management and Election Day Operations, in consultation with Election Center, recommended to remove Information Clerks out of the basic Poll Worker Training Class and to have them receive targeted training utilizing the Tablets instead of the Street Finders. This change will also help streamline the basic Poll Worker Training Class to allow Poll Workers to receive more hands-on training on the voting machines. The implementation would be for the September and November 2018 Elections. Ms. Sandow reported that a Targeted Training Pilot Program was conducted in Staten Island and it was successful. The accuracy of affidavit ballots increased to 75% in the 2017 elections opposed to 57% in the 2016 elections. Ms. Sandow reported that Election Center recommended expanding Information Clerk Targeted Training citywide, and the Borough Office Chief Clerks and Deputy Chief Clerks were consulted. In response to Commissioner Umane, Ms. Leible reported that Poll Workers will still continue to be trained on the Street Finder. Information Clerks with Tablets will also relieve the Coordinators of Poll Worker check-in. It was noted that the Board has the ability to push out messages on the Tablets to Coordinators. If the Coordinator is busy throughout the day, the Information Clerks will receive those messages as well. Ms. Sandow reported that for the 2016 elections, high school

students were hired to assist the voters on line in the poll site using Tablets. Mr. Ryan noted that the Board's goal is to have both Information Clerks and Poll Workers working the lines in the 2020 elections with Tablets. In response to Commissioner Araujo, the Information Clerk Targeted Training Class will be four (4) hours long and will focus on hands-on training finding voters' addresses on the Tablet, Poll Worker check-in, and a brief overview of opening and closing the voting machines. The Information Clerk targeted training class is to better serve the voters. Mr. Ryan reported that the September and November 2018 elections will be evaluated for the 2020 elections. In response to Commissioner Araujo, Mr. Ryan reported that the amount of Tablets will increase over time. In response to Commissioner Shamoun, Mr. Richman reported that voters can only vote by using their current address, and an affidavit ballot form can be used as a Change of Address. Mr. Ryan reported that PollSiteLocater.com can be utilized to find a voter's correct poll site as well. PollSiteLocater.com can be accessed on the Tablet and on a voter's smart phone which gives walking and/or driving directions to the voter's correct poll site. Ms. Sandow noted that the goal is to decrease the number of affidavit ballots at the poll sites. Commissioner Umame moved to approve the Information Clerk Targeted Training Class as presented.

Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Siano moved to convene an Executive Session for litigation. President Vargas seconded the motion, which was 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 210 hours Advance of Time to Jeffrey Lodge, a Voting Machine Technician in the Brooklyn Office, retroactive to February 28, 2018. Mr. Lodge's agency start date is September 25, 2005;
- II. In a vote of eight (8) in favor and no opposition, the Commissioners ratified the Executive Committee's action conducted on March 27, 2018, in lieu of the full Board, and granted 40 hours Advance of Time to Raquel Torres, an Administrative Assistant in the General Office, effective immediately. Mr. Ryan reported that the action was amended to 21 hours Advance of Time. Commissioner Araujo was not

present during the discussion, deliberation, and vote on this matter;

- III. At the meeting on March 13, 2018, the Commissioners appointed Antonina Cali and Maureen Galgano, as Citywide List Maintenance Managers in the General Office, with an annual salary rate of \$90,000 each, to oversee the process as required by the Consent Decree with the U.S. Department of Justice and New York State Attorney General's Office. Announcements of appointments were held in advance pending notification of the employees, and the following week's meeting was canceled;
- IV. Rose Ann Pecora, a Financial Clerk in the Staten Island Office, was unanimously appointed as Administrative Associate, as the Assistant to the Operations Manager in the General Office;
- V. The Commissioners voted to increase temporary staff in the Bronx Office by ten (10) per Party to accommodate the April 2018 Special Election and June 2018 Primary Election, effective immediately. The appointments will be made at the discretion of the Commissioners.

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

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 1:30 P.M.