

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018 AT 1:30 P.M.  
42 BROADWAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM  
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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PRESENT:       Acting President Jose Araujo  
                  Secretary John Wm. Zaccone

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

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  
Steven Guglielmi, Director, Personnel  
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications and Public Affairs  
Thomas Sattie, Associate Staff Analyst, Ballot Management  
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners  
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST:       Kate Doran, LWV NYC  
                  Wendy Byrne, LWV NYC

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Commissioner Araujo called the meeting to order at 1:48 P.M.

Commissioner Araujo announced that President Vargas is on maternity leave and he was designated as Acting President until she returns.

Commissioner Schulkin moved to adopt the minutes for the May 29, 2018 meeting. Acting President Araujo seconded the motion, with Commissioner Guastella abstaining. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Sattie provided a report from the Commissioners' Ballot Committee meeting. Copies of sample ballots for the June 26, 2018 Federal Office Primary Election were distributed to the Commissioners for review. Mr. Sattie reported that the Commissioners' Ballot Committee approved the ballot layout and requested for full Board approval. Commissioner Schulkin raised concerns about the Opportunity to Ballot (OTB) ballots which have no candidates, and inquired about instructions for voters in those Districts. Mr. Sattie reported voting instructions are printed on the ballot and on the Privacy Sleeve. Ms. Sandow added that ballot instructions are posted on the Board's website as well. Commissioner Umane inquired about the placement of the Party color and symbol box located on the bottom of the ballot and if the District # was required. Mr. Richman reported that it complies with the New York State Election Law. Acting President Araujo requested for Mr. Sattie to provide samples of the ballots to the Office of the General Counsel in advance of the Commissioners' Meeting in the future. Acting President Araujo moved to adopt the Commissioners' Ballot Committee's recommendation to adopt

the ballot layout as presented. Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion, which Commissioner Flateau abstaining. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Ryan reported that he received a reminder from the New York City Conflict of Interest Board (COIB) concerning the annual update of Board employees with policy discretion. A copy of the draft letter was previously circulated to the Commissioners for review. Mr. Ryan reported that the list of employees consists of the Commissioners, Executive Management, Counsel's Office, and Borough Office Management. In response to Acting President Araujo's inquiry, it was confirmed that these are the same titles in prior years. Commissioner Umame moved to adopt the Board's list for COIB's annual update as presented. The motion was seconded, with Commissioner Flateau abstaining. The motion was adopted. Mr. Ryan will forward the approved list to COIB.

Commissioner Flateau requested to discuss a Brooklyn personnel item in Executive Session.

Commissioner Michel requested to publicly address an anonymous letter that was mailed to the Board. The letter concerns poll workers being paid less than minimum wage. Mr. Ryan clarified that poll worker salary is

established by the New York State Election Law in accordance with Section 3 – 420. The Board has been submitting recommended revisions to the State Legislature to amend the law to increase poll worker salary for the past fifteen (15) years. Mr. Ryan reported that the last time poll worker pay increased was in 2001 when NYC Mayor Giuliani raised Inspector pay from \$135 to \$200 and Coordinator pay from \$200 to \$300 under an Executive Order. Mr. Ryan reported that the Board requests for poll worker pay increase at New York City Council Hearings as well. Commissioner Michel reiterated that the Board is required to comply with the NYS Election Law, but disagrees with the law.

Acting President Araujo noted that Commissioner Shamoun joined the meeting.

Mr. Richman introduced David Fuchs and John Muldoon, the Law Student Interns who will be assisting the Office of the General Counsel this summer. The Commissioners welcomed them to the Board.

Acting President Araujo moved to convene an Executive Session for personnel matters. The motion was seconded, and unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed and Acting President Araujo reported that there is nothing to report from Executive Session.

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

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 1:30 P.M.