

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2019 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, EVS CONFERENCE ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: Secretary John Wm. Zaccone

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

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications & Public Affairs
Steven Guglielmi, Director, Personnel
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Wendy Byrne, NYC LWV
Ayirini Fonseca-Sabune
Angeline Superatle
Jennie Bergen
Kate Doran, LWV
Katharine Loving, NYC CFB
Jorge Fanjul, City Hall

Secretary Zaccone called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M.

Pursuant to New York State Election Law, Section 3-212(1), Secretary Zaccone called for the election of Board Officers for the Year 2019. Commissioner Araujo moved to designate Commissioner Guastella to serve as Secretary for 2019. Commissioner Schulkin seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Commissioner Michel moved to designate Secretary Zaccone to serve as President for 2019. Commissioner Siano seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

President Zaccone moved to table the designation of Commissioners' Committee Members for 2019 for one (1) week due to the absence of two (2) Commissioners. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Araujo moved to table the minutes of the December 11, 2018 and December 18, 2018 Commissioners' Meetings for one (1) week due to the absence of two (2) Commissioners. Secretary Guastella seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Richman requested to establish the date for the Hearings on Specifications of Objections and related matters for the February 26, 2019 Special Election. Copies of his memorandum were circulated to the Commissioners for review. On January 2, 2019, the Mayor issued a Proclamation calling a Special Election to fill the vacancy in the Office of the Public Advocate of the City of New York. The Office of the General Counsel prepared a preliminary filing calendar for Independent Nominating Petitions. Mr. Richman recommended scheduling the Hearings on Specifications of Objections and related matters on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at 1:30 P.M. Mr. Ryan noted that the time of the Hearings can be adjusted, if needed. Mr. Richman reported that the last day under the New York State Election Law to distribute Military ballots is 32 days before the date of the Election which is Friday, January 25, 2019, and recommended finalizing the Military ballots by close of business on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 to allow them to be printed and mailed. Commissioner Araujo moved to schedule the Hearings on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at 1:30 P.M. and to print and mail the Military ballots as soon as possible. Secretary Guastella seconded the motion. Before a vote was taken by the Board, Commissioner Umame requested a friendly amendment to finalize the Military ballots by close of business on Tuesday,

January 22, 2019. Commissioner Araujo accepted the amendment to his motion. President Zaccone seconded the amended motion, which was unanimously adopted. Commissioner Araujo requested for a sample ballot layout to be circulated to the Commissioners' Ballot Committee for review as soon as possible.

Mr. Richman requested for the appointment of Commissioners' Cover Sheet Review Committee Meetings for Independent Nominating Petition matters. The designated schedule follows:

- Tuesday, January 8th immediately following Commissioners' Meeting
 - Commissioner Araujo and Commissioner Umame
- Thursday, January 10th at 4:00 P.M.
 - Commissioner Flateau and Commissioner Michel

Public notice of the schedule will be posted on the Board's website.

Mr. Ryan reported on the February 26, 2019 Special Election for Public Advocate. In consultation with the Borough Office Chief Clerks and Deputy Chief Clerks, Mr. Ryan recommended combines for the Special Election. The combines would not affect the deployment of Privacy Booths and Scanners. The combines would affect the amount of poll workers and

poll site equipment such as tables, chairs, etc. In response to Commissioner Shamoun, Mr. Ryan confirmed that combines would not create any poll site moves. President Zaccone moved to combine the February 26, 2019 Special Election. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. In consultation with staff, Mr. Ryan recommended an enhanced training session for AD Monitors, Coordinators and Trainers with a concentration on DS-200 Scanners and ballot issues before the February 26, 2019 Special Election. Attendees would receive \$50.00 for the training session. Secretary Guastella moved to adopt an enhanced training session for the AD Monitors, Coordinators and Trainers before the February 26, 2019 Special Election. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Umane reminded that next week is the Election Commissioners' Association's Winter Conference in Albany, NY. Commissioner Umane moved to authorize a Commissioners Subcommittee, consisting of an equal number of Democrats and Republicans, to conduct the next Commissioners' Meeting if a quorum is

not present. Commissioner Schulkin seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

President Zaccone recognized speaker Ayirini Fonseca-Sabune, the Chief Democracy Officer of DemocracyNYC. Ms. Fonseca-Sabune provided an overview of the agency's mission and requested to collaborate with the Board to secure a location inside poll sites for the Mayor's interpreters for the Special Election. Ms. Fonseca-Sabune noted that she has previously met with Mr. Ryan and Ms. Sandow to discuss her proposal. Copies of Ms. Fonseca-Sabune's proposal were circulated to the Commissioners for review. After discussion, the Commissioners noted that two (2) Commissioners were not present at the meeting and recommended to discuss the proposal in two (2) weeks on January 15, 2019 when there is a full Board of Commissioners. Several Commissioners raised concerns about the Mayor's poll site interpreter program and requested information for the following items:

- The methodology DemocracyNYC used when picking the languages and poll sites citywide;
- Information on DemocracyNYC's poll site interpreter training program;

- Information on the selection process when hiring the interpreters;
- The interpreters' Party enrollments and the percentage of each Party;
- The hourly rate of pay for the interpreters.

Ms. Fonseca-Sabune noted that she will respond to each question raised at the next meeting. The Commissioners requested assistance from DemocracyNYC on problematic NYC DOE poll sites and obtaining City-owned poll sites, particularly in Manhattan. The Commissioners thanked Ms. Fonseca-Sabune for her presentation.

President Zaccone recognized Alan Flacks, a member of the public, who spoke about poll worker salary and closing public schools on all election days.

President Zaccone moved to convene an Executive Session for personnel matters. Commissioner Araujo 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 63 hours Advance of Time to Kim Ziegler, a Permanent Financial Clerk in the Bronx Office, retroactive to December 17, 2018. Ms. Ziegler's agency start date is July 9, 2007;
- II. The Commissioners granted 14 hours Advance of Time to Katherine Riley, an Administrative Associate in the General Office, retroactive to December 27, 2018. Ms. Riley's agency start date is February 7, 2016;
- III. The Commissioners granted 140 hours Advance of Time to Anthony Ayala, a Voting Machine Technician in the Brooklyn Voting Machine Facility, retroactive to December 17, 2018. Mr. Ayala's agency start date is June 19, 2011.

Secretary Guastella moved to adjourn the meeting. President Zaccone seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, January 8, 2018 at 1:30 P.M.