

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President John Wm. Zaccone

Commissioners Jose Araujo, Miguelina Camilo, Simon Shamoun, Robert Siano, Patricia Anne Taylor, 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
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Travis Grodin, Contract Attorney, Office of the General Counsel
Michael Bryant, Contract Attorney, 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: Kate Doran, LWV
Wendy Byrne, NYC LWV
Katharine Loving, NYC CFB
Howard Graubarb

President Zaccone called the meeting to order at 1:38 P.M.

On behalf of the Commissioners, President Zaccone welcomed new Commissioners Miguelina Camilo and Patricia Anne Taylor to the Board.

President Zaccone moved to table the minutes for the February 19, 2019 meeting for one (1) week. The motion was seconded, and unanimously adopted. There were not enough Commissioners present to approve the minutes.

President Zaccone noted that Commissioner Shamoun joined the meeting.

Commissioner Araujo moved to nominate Commissioner Taylor to serve as Secretary for 2019. Commissioner Siano seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan reported that he received communication from the New York City Council last week concerning the City Council's Fiscal Year 2020 Preliminary Budget and Oversight Hearings scheduled on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 12:00 P.M. Early Voting funding will be addressed. Mr. Ryan requested authorization for Executive Management

to prepare and present testimony at the City Council's Hearing. Commissioner Araujo requested for the testimony to be circulated to the Commissioners in advance of the Hearing. Commissioner Araujo moved to authorize Executive Management to prepare and present testimony at the City Council's Fiscal Year 2020 Preliminary Budget and Oversight Hearings scheduled on March 12, 2019. Commissioner Umame seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan reported on the New York City Conflicts of Interest Board's (COIB) Annual Update of Board employees with substantial policy discretion. A copy of Mr. Ryan's draft letter to COIB was circulated to the Commissioners for review. Mr. Ryan provided an overview of the COIB's policy. Mr. Ryan requested authorization to provide COIB with the required information as presented. President Zaccone moved to authorize Mr. Ryan to send the letter to COIB. Commissioner Umame seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan requested to add an item to the agenda concerning Party representative pay. Poll workers recently received a raise from \$200 to \$250 per Election Day from a Mayoral Executive Order. Mr. Ryan recalled

that the Board has advocated for an increase in poll worker pay for many years. The provision in Section 7-207 (5) of the New York State Election Law applies to Party representatives who provide oversight and are on par with poll workers. The City Council has discretion to raise the pay for Party representatives. Mr. Ryan reported that it is the recommendation of the Counsel's Office and Executive Management to send a letter to the City Council requesting for Party representatives to receive equal pay as poll workers. Commissioner Umame moved to authorize staff to send a letter to the City Council as recommended. President Zaccone seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan reported that the Board's Certification of the Special Election is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2019 which meets the statutory requirements. The Certification will trigger a three (3) day window for the Mayor's Proclamation of Election calling for a Special Election for the vacated City Council seat of Jumaane D. Williams in Brooklyn. In accordance with the law, the Special Election will be scheduled within forty-five (45) days of the Mayor's Proclamation. The Special Election will affect approximately 92,000 voters in Brooklyn. Mr. Ryan will provide more details moving forward.

President Zaccone reminded that the deadline for designating poll sites citywide is Friday, March 15, 2019. Commissioner Umame recommended scheduling a Commissioners' Meeting on Friday, March 15, 2019 since the Board will be providing testimony at the City Council's Preliminary Budget Hearing on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. After discussion, President Zaccone moved to authorize a Commissioners' Subcommittee, consisting of an equal number of Democrats and Republicans, if a quorum is not present at the meeting on Friday, March 15, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. to approve poll site designations citywide. Commissioner Umame seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Mr. Ryan noted that Early Voting sites are inclusive in the poll site designations deadline of March 15, 2019 and are required to be selected by May 1, 2019. Mr. Ryan reported that the legally required annual Voter Information Notice dates of mailing have changed. The Notice will not be mailed the first week of August as done in prior years. For the June Primary Election, the annual Voter Information Notice is required to be mailed in April which is a calendaring anomaly for including Early Voting sites on the Notice. Website information will be provided for voters to look up their Early Voting site as required. There will also be a separate required mailing to all registered and inactive voters in the

affected District for the Special Election in Brooklyn. Mr. Ryan noted that the legally required mailings could potentially cause confusion.

President Zaccone moved to convene an Executive Session for litigation. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

After Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed, and President Zaccone reported that no reportable actions were taken in Executive Session.

Commissioner Shamoun welcomed the new Commissioners to the Board.

Mr. Ryan thanked Commissioner Guastella and Commissioner Schulkin for their years of service at the Board.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Friday, March 15, 2019 at 1:00 P.M.