

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: Secretary Frederic M. Umane

Commissioners Jose Araujo, Michael Michel, Simon Shamoun, Tiffany Townsend, John Wm. Zaccone

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
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communication and Public Affairs
Steven Guglielmi, Director, Personnel
Troy Johnson, Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
Rayvon Weaver, Project Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
John Naudus, Manager, Electronic Voting Systems
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Vlad Ficippovich
Louis Konnor
Hamza Din
Eve Grassfield, Mayor's Office
Monica Bartley, CIDNY
Debra Somas, CIDNY
Katharine Loving, NYC CFB
Wendy Byrne, LWV
Elvin Gafa
Kate Doran, LWV
Bonnie Nelson, BVA
Rasheta Bunting

Pat Nolan, BVA
Rowland Sely
Alan Flacks, Member of NY Democratic County Committee

Secretary Umane called the meeting to order at 1:37 P.M.

Secretary Umane convened the Hearing on the prima facie preliminary finding of defect in the Designating Petition of Barbara J. Jackson, Candidate for Delegate to the Democratic National Convention pledge to Candidate Joseph R. Biden in the 14th Congressional District for the April 28, 2020 Presidential Primary Election. Secretary Umane recalled that this matter was placed on second call at last week's Hearings. Mr. Richman reported that the representative submitted a printer's error letter to the Board concerning the prima facie issue. There were no appearances by a candidate and/or their representative. Copies of the letter were circulated to the Commissioners for review and consideration. After review, Commissioner Araujo moved to accept the printer's error letter submitted to the Board. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Secretary Umane moved to table the minutes for the February 18, 2020 meeting due to an insufficient number of Commissioners present to vote. The motion was seconded, and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Richman reported on a petition Cover Sheet review matter. The candidate for the “Go With The Flo” independent body has filed a Cover Sheet containing a defect pursuant to the Board’s Rules. Mr. Richman recommended sending a Notice to the candidate to cure the defect. Secretary Umane moved to adopt Mr. Richman’s recommendation. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Secretary Umane noted that Commissioner Townsend and Mr. Ryan joined the meeting.

Mr. Ryan reported on the Queens Borough Office extended hours of operation for the voter registration deadline for the March 24, 2020 Special Election in Queens County which is Saturday, March 14, 2020. Ms. Perkins, in consultation with the Queens Office Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Clerk, recommended 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, March 14, 2020. Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the hours of

operation as presented. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan reported on the Poll Worker Exceptions Report for the March 24, 2020 Special Election in Queens County. Copies of the Report were distributed to the Commissioners for review. The Queens Commissioners' Committee has previously approved the Poll Worker Exceptions. Commissioner Araujo moved for the full Board to ratify the Poll Worker Exceptions Report for the March 24, 2020 Special Election in Queens County. Commissioner Michel seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan reported that the Board received a request from the Executive Director of Historic Richmond Town in Staten Island for the loan of a Shoup Lever Machine for a display in their "Don't Forget to Vote" Exhibition. Copies of the request were distributed to the Commissioners for review. The exhibition was to be no less than one (1) year from mid-March and they have provided a Certificate of Insurance. Secretary Umame moved to approve Historic Richmond Town's request as presented.

Secretary Umame recognized the following speakers for public comment:

1. Vlad Ficippovich; and
2. Bonnie Nelson.

Commissioner Zaccone moved to convene an Executive Session for litigation and personnel matters. Secretary Umame seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed.

The following personnel action was taken by unanimous decision of the Board of Commissioners in Executive Session on March 3, 2020:

- I. Stacy Infante, a Clerk, was granted 140 hours of an Advance of Time. The grant will be effective March 9, 2020. Ms. Infante's agency start date is February 21, 2016.

Secretary Umame reported that the Board is currently under advisement from City and State agencies concerning the coronavirus (COVID-19) and following the New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM) guidelines.

At the request of the Commissioners' Ballot Layout Committee, Secretary Umame added the sample ballot layout for the April 28, 2020 Democratic Presidential Primary Election to the agenda. Copies of the sample ballot were distributed to the Commissioners for review. After review and recommendations by the full Board of Commissioners, in consultation with Mr. Naudus, Commissioner Araujo moved to make the following recommendations to the April 28, 2020 Presidential Primary Election ballot layout:

- Single bolded vertical line to the right of the individual candidates;
- Single bolded vertical line to the left of the Delegates;
- Separate bolded box for each individual candidate; and
- Bold and increase the font size for the "Vote for Any #" in each contest.

Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Mr. Ryan reminded that for those ballots that have a Special Election, arrows will be printed on each side to advise the voter to flip over the ballot.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 1:30 P.M.

Secretary Umane moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded, and unanimously adopted.