

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022 AT 1:30 P.M.  
42 BROADWAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM  
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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PRESENT:           President Frederic M. Umane  
                      Secretary Rodney L. Pepe-Souvenir

Commissioners Jose Miguel Araujo, Michael J. Coppotelli, Jenny Low, Gino A. Marmorato, Jodi Morales, Simon Shamoun, Keith Sullivan, Patricia Anne Taylor

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director  
Vincent M. Ignizio, Deputy Executive Director  
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager  
Wilma Brown Phillips, Administrative Manager  
Hemalee J. Patel, General Counsel  
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel  
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners  
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

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

Mr. Ryan welcomed the newly appointed Bronx Democratic Commissioner Jodi Morales and Deputy Executive Director Vincent Ignizio to the Board. The Commissioners welcomed them both to the Board. Commissioner Marmorato thanked Commissioner Araujo for serving as the Acting Bronx Democratic Commissioner.

Pursuant to New York State Election Law, specifically Section 3-212(1), Mr. Ryan recommended for the Commissioners to elect the Board Officers for the Year 2022. Commissioner Araujo nominated Secretary Pepe-Souvenir to serve as the President of the Board for the Year 2022. Commissioner Coppotelli seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Commissioner Umame nominated Commissioner Shamoun to serve as Secretary of the Board for Year 2022. Commissioner Marmorato seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. President Pepe-Souvenir and Secretary Shamoun thanked the Commissioners for their nominations to serve as Board Officers for the Year 2022.

President Pepe-Souvenir moved to adopt the December 14, 2021 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Coppotelli seconded the motion, with Commissioners Araujo, Morales and Taylor abstaining. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Ryan provided an update on the January 18, 2022 Special Election in the 68<sup>th</sup> Assembly District in Manhattan. The information follows:

- Early Voting commenced on Saturday, January 8, 2022;
- As a 12 noon today, a total of 127 people voted in-person;
- A total of 1,329 Absentee Ballots were previously mailed to voters;
- A total of 154 Absentee Ballots were received back to date;

- There were no requests for Accessible Ballots;
- Election Day voting equipment will be delivered to Election Day poll sites starting tomorrow, January 12, 2022, for next Tuesday's election on January 18, 2022;
- Early Voting ends on Sunday, January 16, 2022; and
- Early Voting hours and poll site locations are posted on the Board's website at [www.vote.nyc](http://www.vote.nyc).

Mr. Ryan provided an update on the Election Commissioners Association (ECA) Winter Conference. Due to COVID-19 concerns, the ECA Conference has been postponed to the first week of March. Executive Management will circulate the ECA's agenda packet to the Commissioners once it is received.

Mr. Ryan reported that a Proclamation of a Special Election has been issued by the Governor for the 60<sup>th</sup> Assembly District in Brooklyn and 72<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District in Manhattan to be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2022. Following the resignation of Assembly Member Charles Barron, 60<sup>th</sup> A.D., and Carmen N. De La Rosa, 72<sup>nd</sup> A.D., Early Voting will commence from Saturday, February 5, 2022 through Sunday, February 13, 2022. The last day to file a Certificate of Acceptance or Declination of Nomination and petitions is Tuesday, January 18, 2022. Due to the tight time frame, staff requested for the full Board to

authorize a Commissioners Subcommittee of the Borough Commissioners to serve for a petition hearing or ballot approval, if needed. Commissioner Umane moved to adopt a Commissioners Subcommittee of the Borough Commissioners to serve, if needed. Commissioner Low seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Commissioners Umane and Low will serve as the Commissioners Subcommittee, if needed.

Mr. Ryan reported that it is expected that Assembly Member Diana C. Richardson, 43<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District in Brooklyn, will be resigning and will result in a Special Election. There was an announcement that Assembly Member Richardson will be formally accepting the position as Deputy Borough President of Brooklyn. The Governor has not issued a Proclamation of a Special Election to date, but it is expected to fall on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

Commissioner Coppotelli requested to provide a statement for the record. Commissioner Coppotelli recused himself from all involvement regarding the lease terms and compensation in connection with the selection of poll sites on the property of the Archdiocese of New York, including and not limited to at the borough level. He has not and will not participate in the consideration, discussion or selection thereof, given his other role at his full time job. Commissioner Coppotelli requested to designate Secretary Shamoun as the alternate Republican

Commissioner. Secretary Shamoun accepted to serve on Commissioner Coppotelli's behalf.

Mr. Ignizio requested to provide a statement for the record. Mr. Ignizio expressed his excitement and gratitude serving as Deputy Executive Director. He explained that he wants to discharge with the cynicism against the Board and plans to move forward working hard together as a united team to reform the agency with the best practices.

Commissioner Umame moved to schedule the next Commissioners' Meeting for Tuesday, January 18, 2022. President Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

President Pepe-Souvenir moved to convene an Executive Session for personnel and litigation matters. Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open meeting resumed.

The following action was taken in Executive Session by the unanimous decision of the Board of Commissioners:

- I. Monica T. Lantry was appointed as an Executive Secretary to Deputy Executive Director Vincent M. Ignizio, at an annual salary of \$60,000.00, effective January 12, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 1:30 P.M.